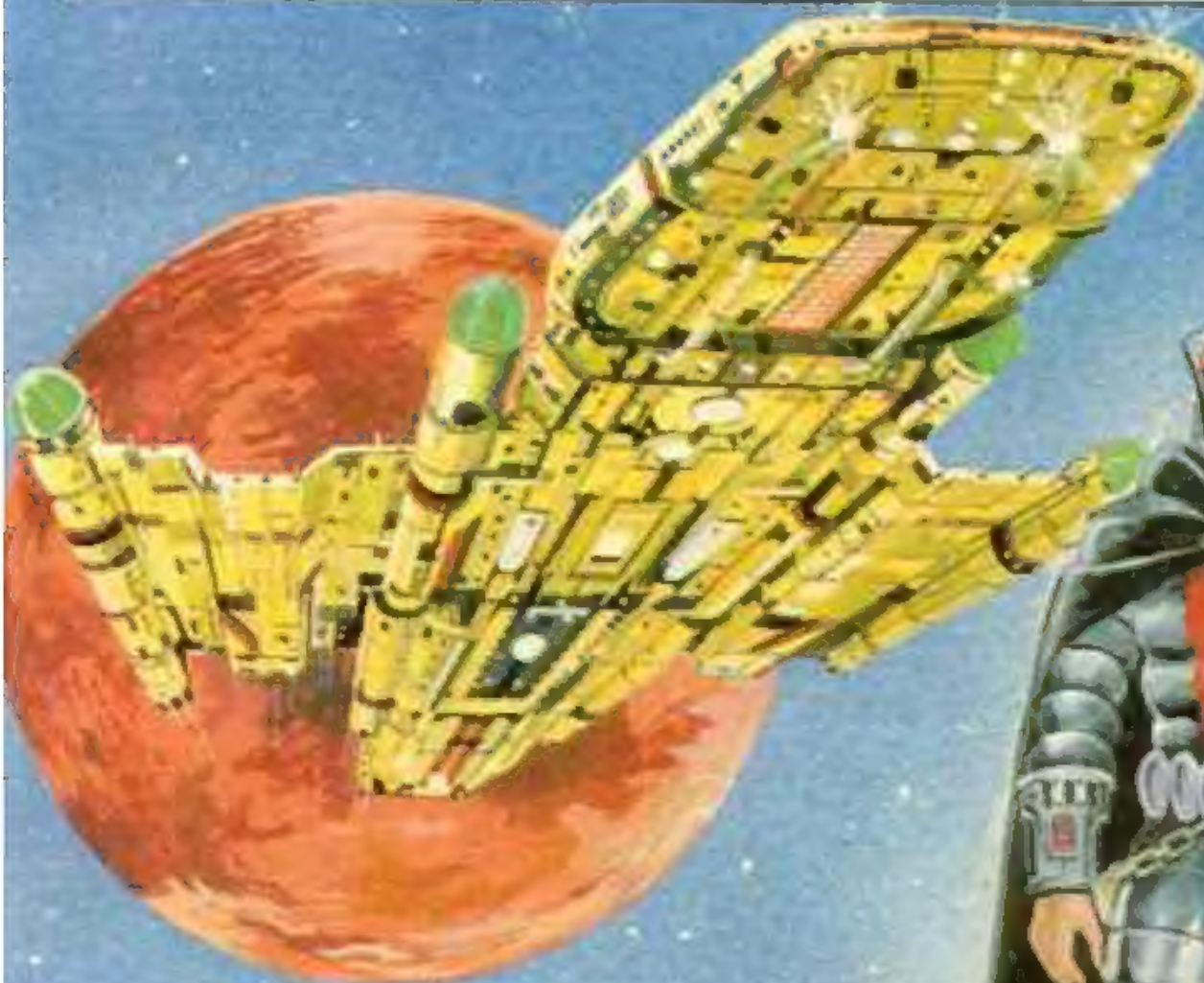


# STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 15

12p

AUS 40c NZ



## ALGOL THE TERRIBLE





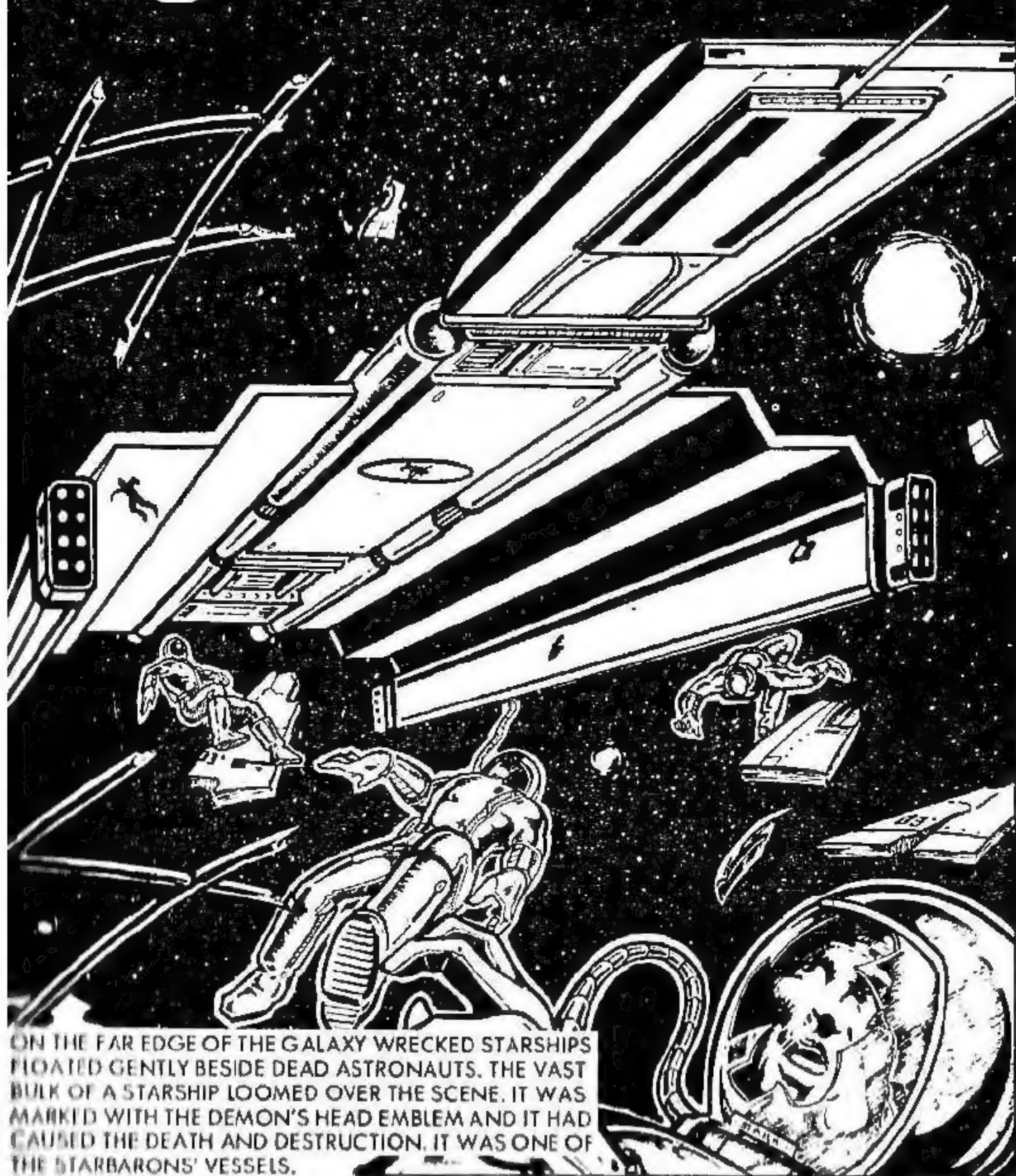


# STARBLAZER

The Galaxy was governed by the peaceful alliance of the Hub. But out across 50,000 light years, the wild Galactic Frontier had fallen under the tyranny of the Starbarons!

From their homeworld, Abraxis, the evil warlords sent mighty battlecruisers to crush all thoughts of rebellion. Their aim was total domination of the galaxy, and Algol the Terrible was in command of the stormtroops.


# Algol the Terrible




ON THE FAR EDGE OF THE GALAXY WRECKED STARSHIPS FLOATED GENTLY BESIDE DEAD ASTRONAUTS. THE VAST BULK OF A STARSHIP LOOMED OVER THE SCENE. IT WAS MARKED WITH THE DEMON'S HEAD EMBLEM AND IT HAD CAUSED THE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION. IT WAS ONE OF THE STARBARONS' VESSELS.

INSIDE, THE ROBOT CAPTAIN RELAYED THE SUCCESS OF THE MISSION TO HIS SUPERIORS.

THE CRAFT HAS BEEN DESTROYED,  
SIR. WE ARE ACTIVATING THE  
TRACTOR BEAM.

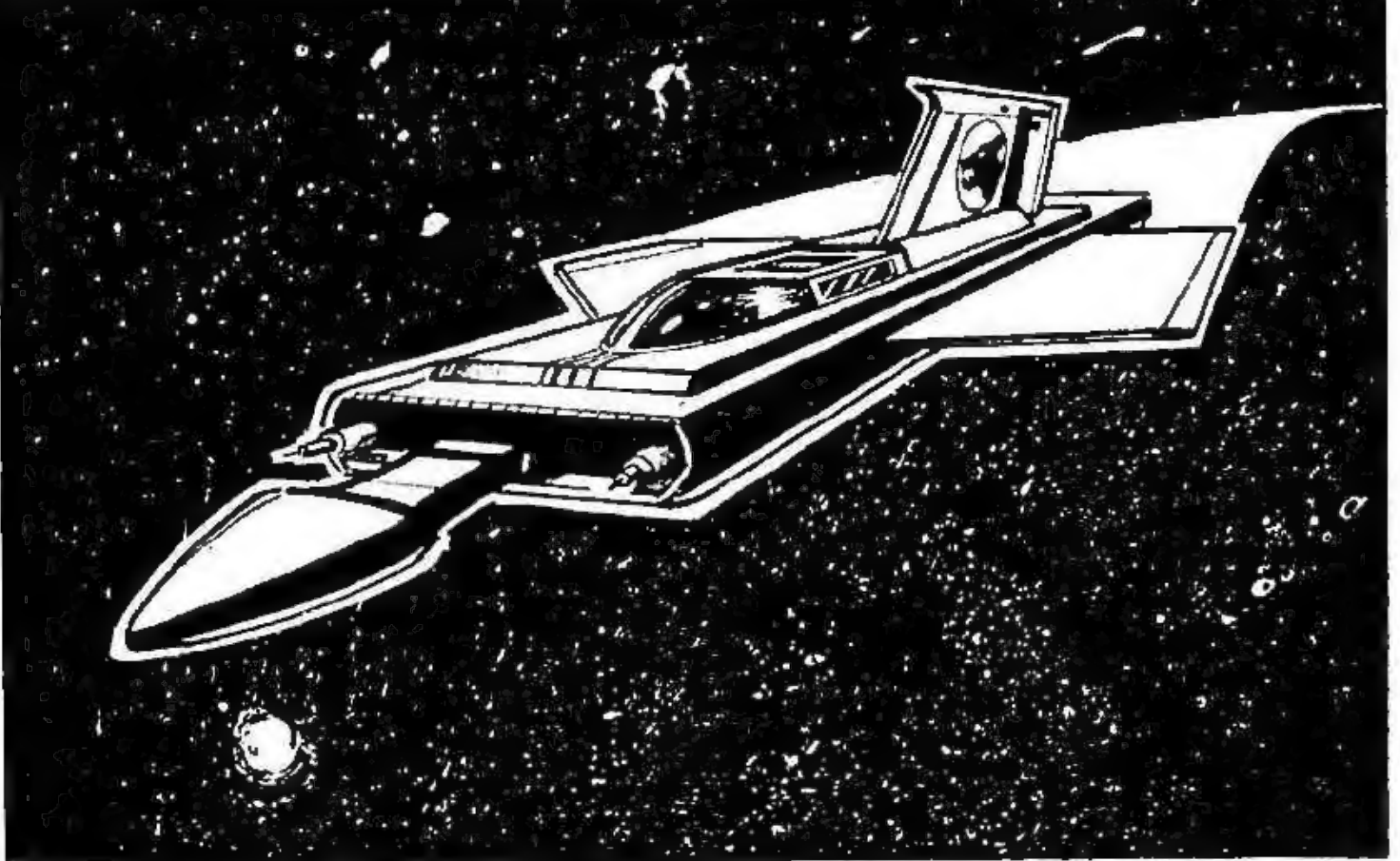


CAPTAIN! AN UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT IS  
APPROACHING FROM OUTSIDE THE  
GALAXY!





A SMALL CRAFT HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE STARSHIP.



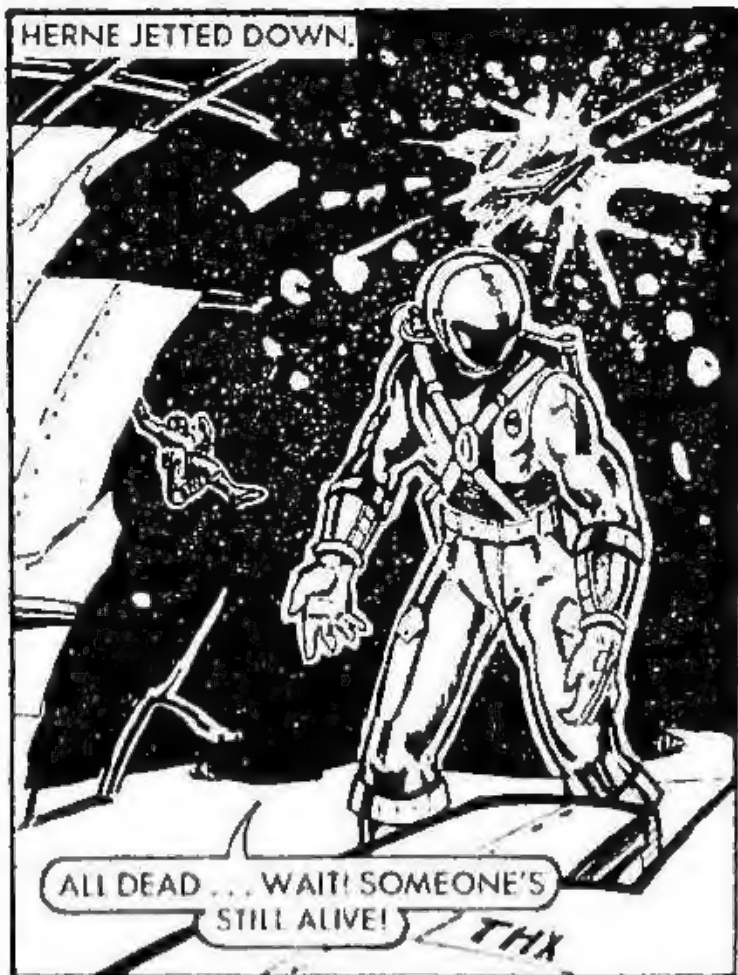
BEFORE THE ROBOTS REALISED WHAT WAS HAPPENING,  
PLASMA CANNON TORE HOLES IN THE HULL.





INSIDE THE ATTACKING CRAFT SAT A STRANGE MAN, GUIDED BY HIS COMPUTER.







THE ASTRONAUT WAS DYING, BUT HE HELD OUT A STRANGE SEMI-CIRCULAR MEDALLION WITH THE LAST OF HIS STRENGTH.

YOU DESTROYED ... THE BARONS' ROBOTS? TAKE THIS MEDALLION. GET IT ... TO ... TO ... MY BROTHER, KELVIN. THE FREEDOM OF THE GALAXY DEPENDS ON IT.

WHERE IS HE? WHY WERE YOU ATTACKED?

GO TO GONDWANE ... TO GONDWANE ... GONDWANE ...

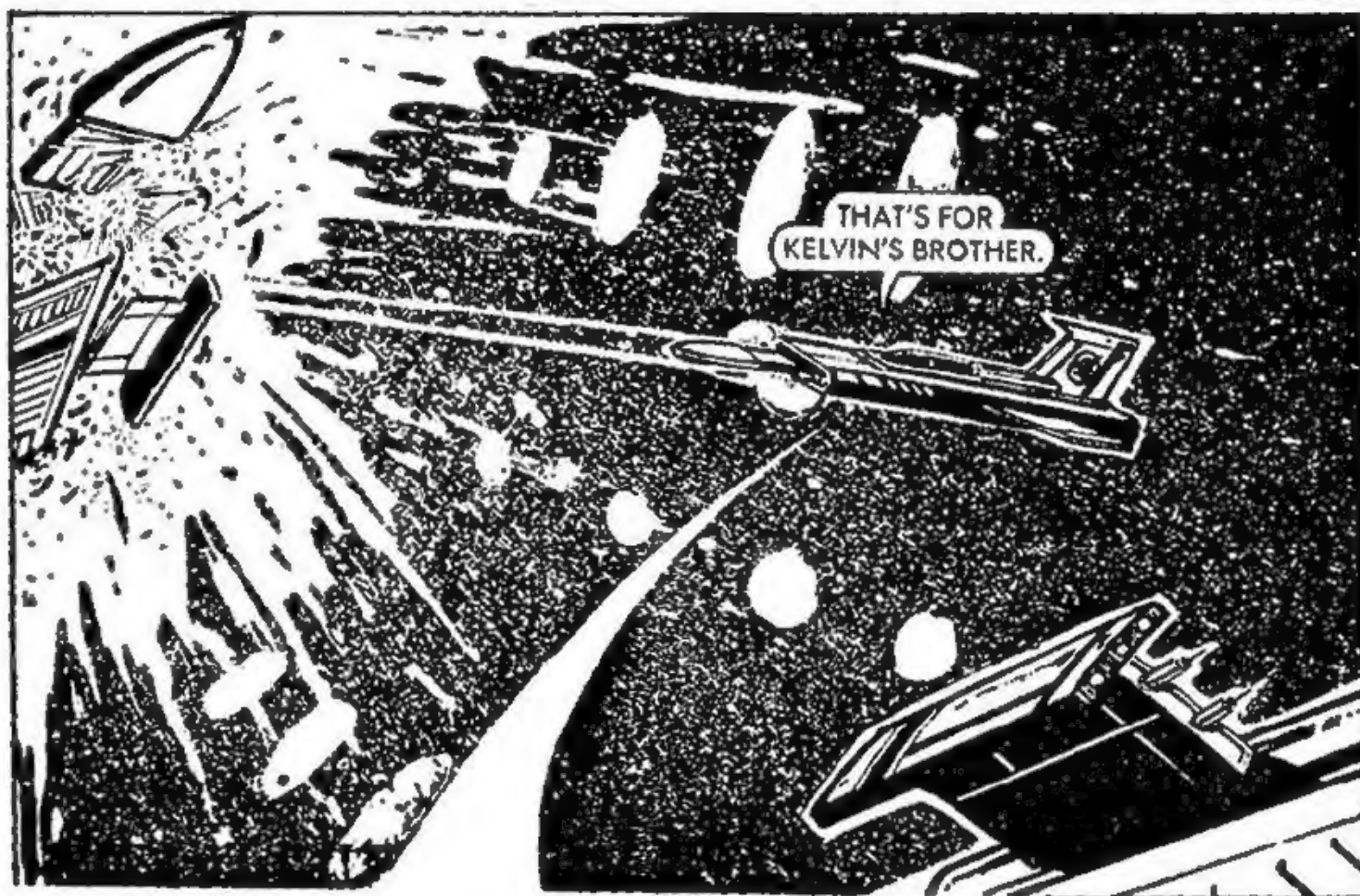
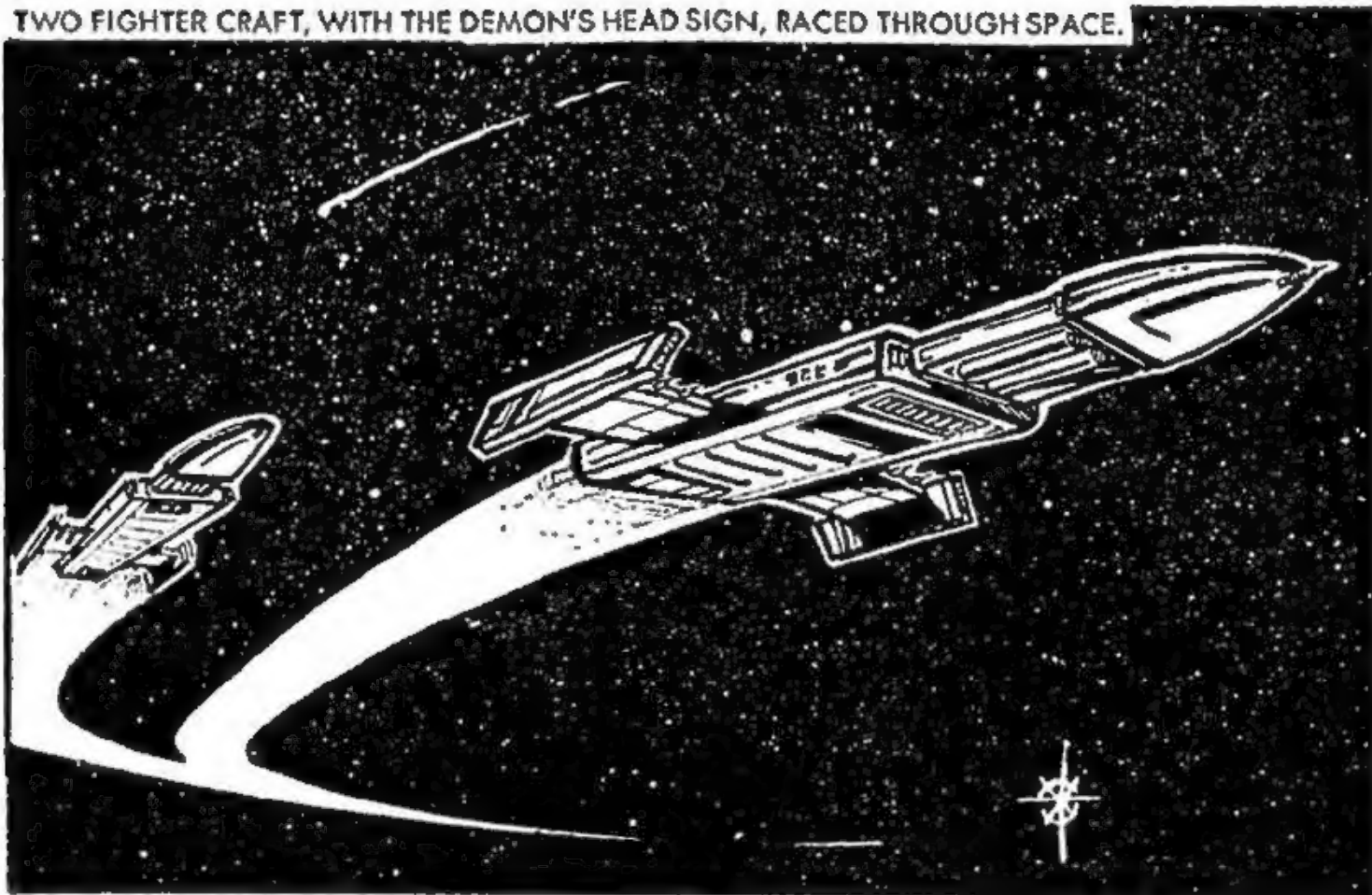
THE ASTRONAUT SAID NO MORE.

ANOTHER DEATH. GONDWANE! THAT'S IN THE MARATHON STAR SYSTEM! HOW DOES IT FIT IN?



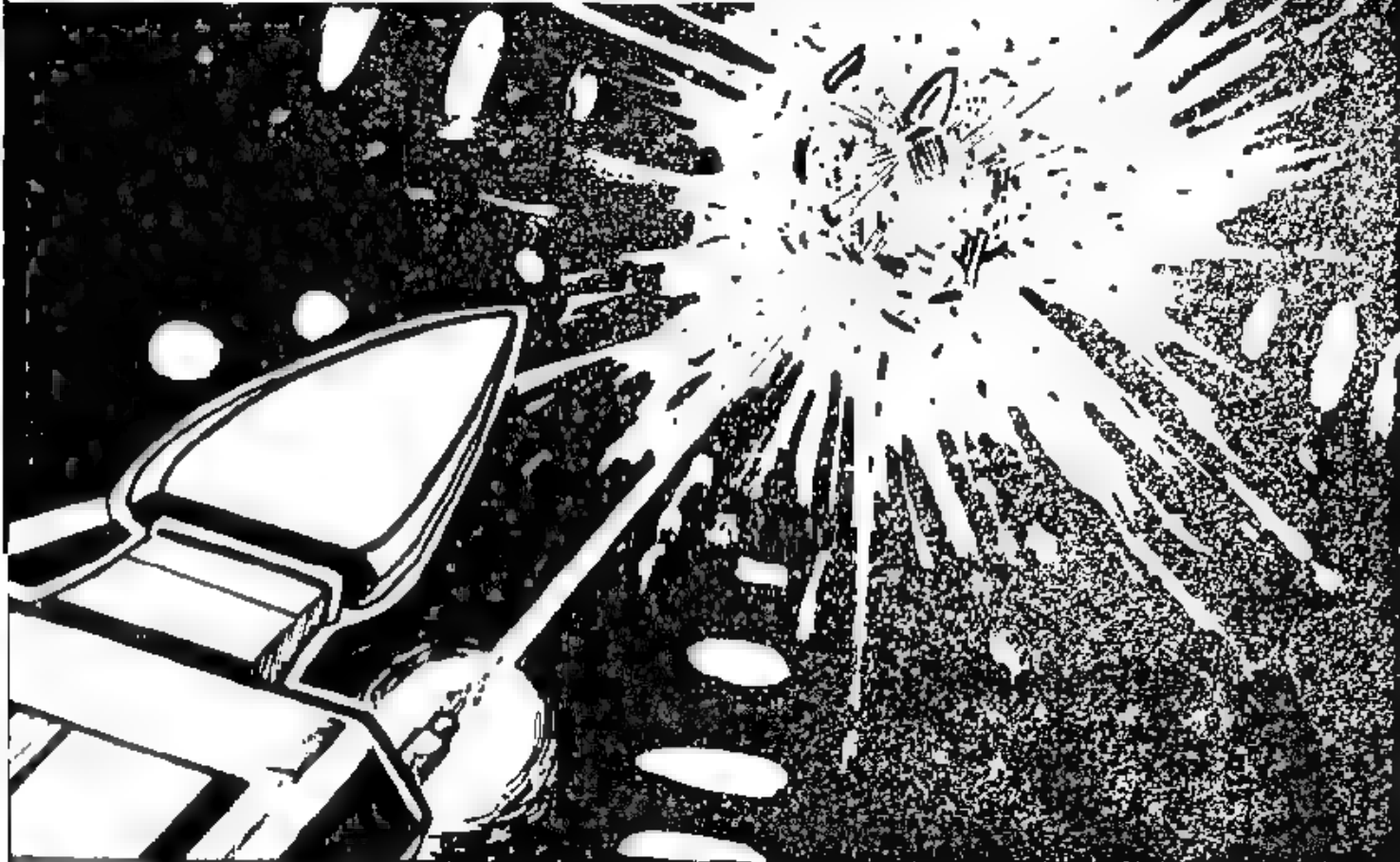


TWO FIGHTER CRAFT, WITH THE DEMON'S HEAD SIGN, RACED THROUGH SPACE.





A SUDDEN TURN PUT THE SECOND FIGHTER IN HERNE'S SIGHTS.




WE DID IT!

THE BARONS ARE VERY EAGER TO GET HOLD OF THIS MEDALLION, EH? LET'S GET TO GONDWANE AND FIND OUT WHY.



LIGHT YEARS AWAY, ON THE DARK PLANET ABRAXIS, THE IMMORTAL STARBARONS DISCUSSED THEIR PLANS



ANOTHER TWO SHIPS  
DESTROYED BY THIS MAN.  
WHO IS HE? WHERE HAS HE  
COME FROM? IT IS ALMOST  
CERTAIN NOW THAT HE HAS  
TAKEN THE MEDALLION. HE  
IS DANGEROUS AND MUST BE  
ELIMINATED.

HE MUST BE HEADED FOR  
GONDWANE. IT IS THE  
ONLY PLANET OF ANY  
IMPORTANCE IN THE SECTOR  
FOR WHICH HE IS HEADING.

WE SHOULD SEND A  
TEAM TO ELIMINATE HIM.



EVEN AS HERNE'S FATE WAS BEING DECIDED, HE MOVED INTO ORBIT ROUND GONDWANE



HERNE LEFT HIS SHIP AT THE NEARBY SPACE PORT AND MADE HIS WAY THROUGH THE MAIN TO THE HOTEL MARATHON







THE PAGEBOY LED HERNE TO HIS ROOM

IT'S A LIGHT-DOOR, SIR.  
YOU JUST PUT YOUR PHOTON  
KEY IN THE SCANNER-LOCK...

YEAH, RIGHT...

THANKS, SIR!

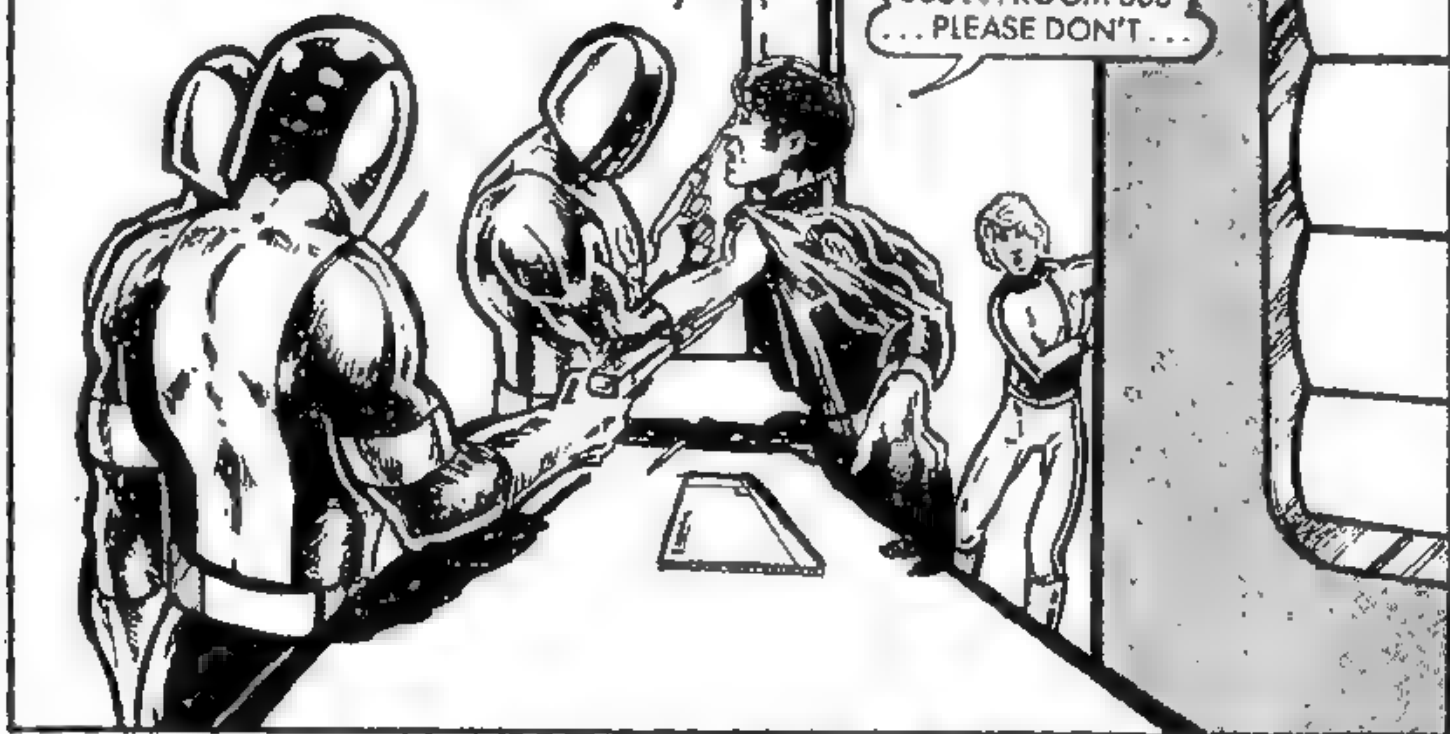
THERE'LL BE MORE IF  
YOU CAN FIND OUT  
ANYTHING ABOUT  
A MAN NAMED  
KELVIN

HERNE SAT SILENTLY IN A CHAIR.

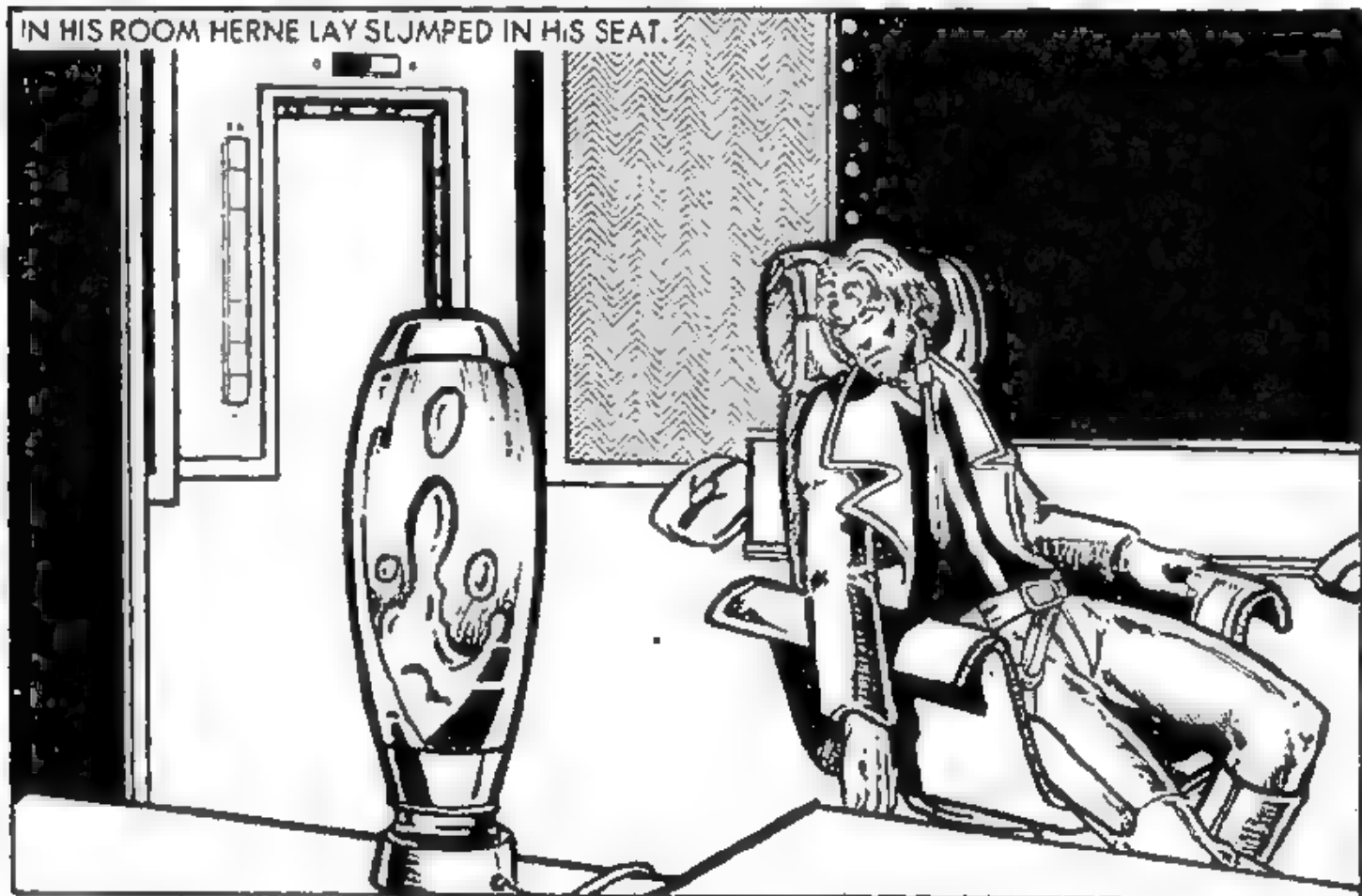
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE LOBBY...

WHERE IS HE? THE SPACEPORT ATTENDANT SAID HE CAME  
HERE. TALK, OR I'LL BLOW YOU ACROSS THAT WALL!

503... ROOM 503  
... PLEASE DON'T ...



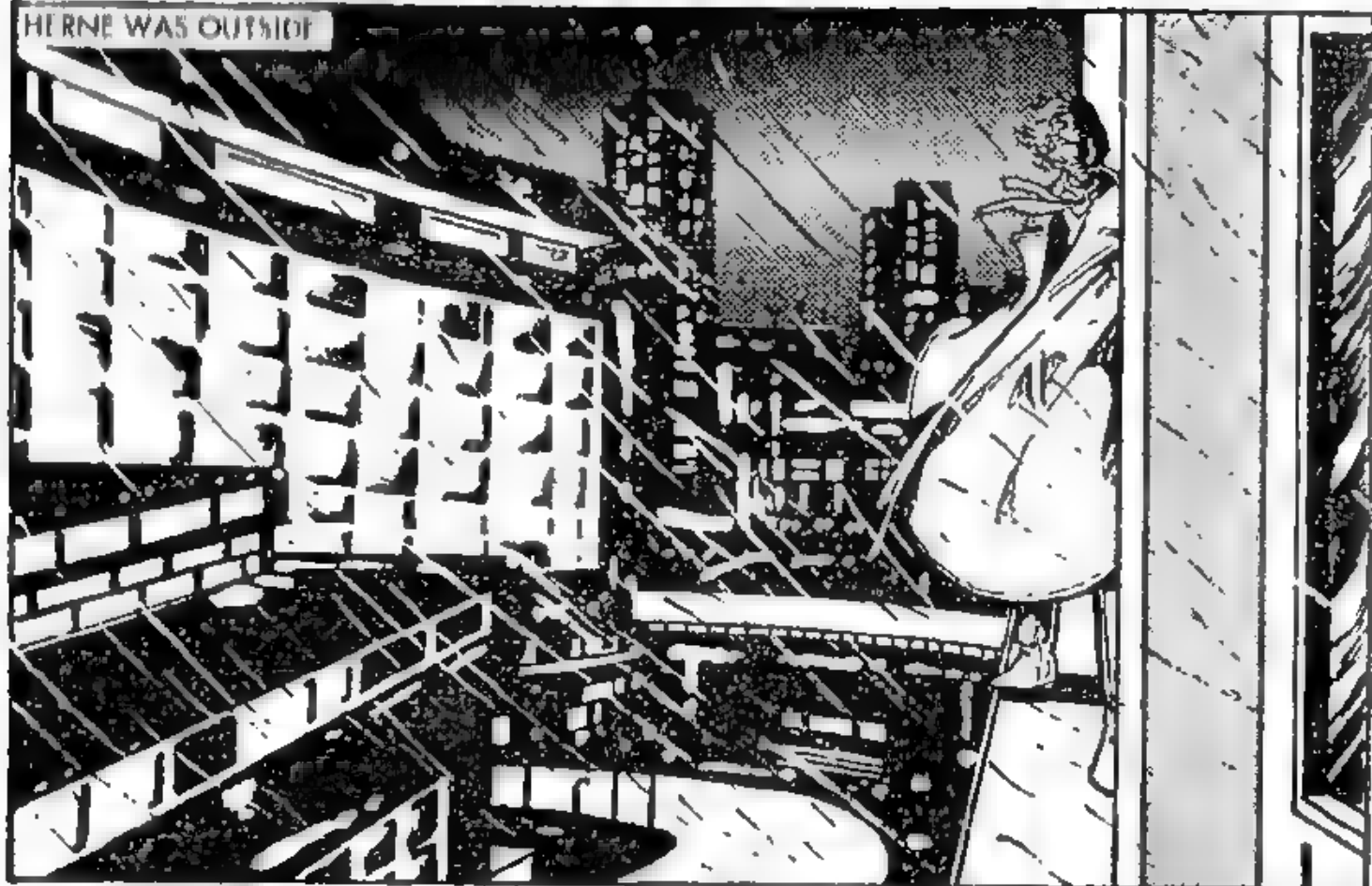
IN HIS ROOM HERNE LAY SLUMPED IN HIS SEAT.





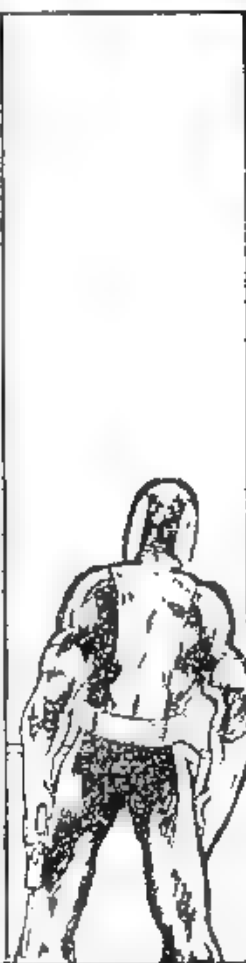
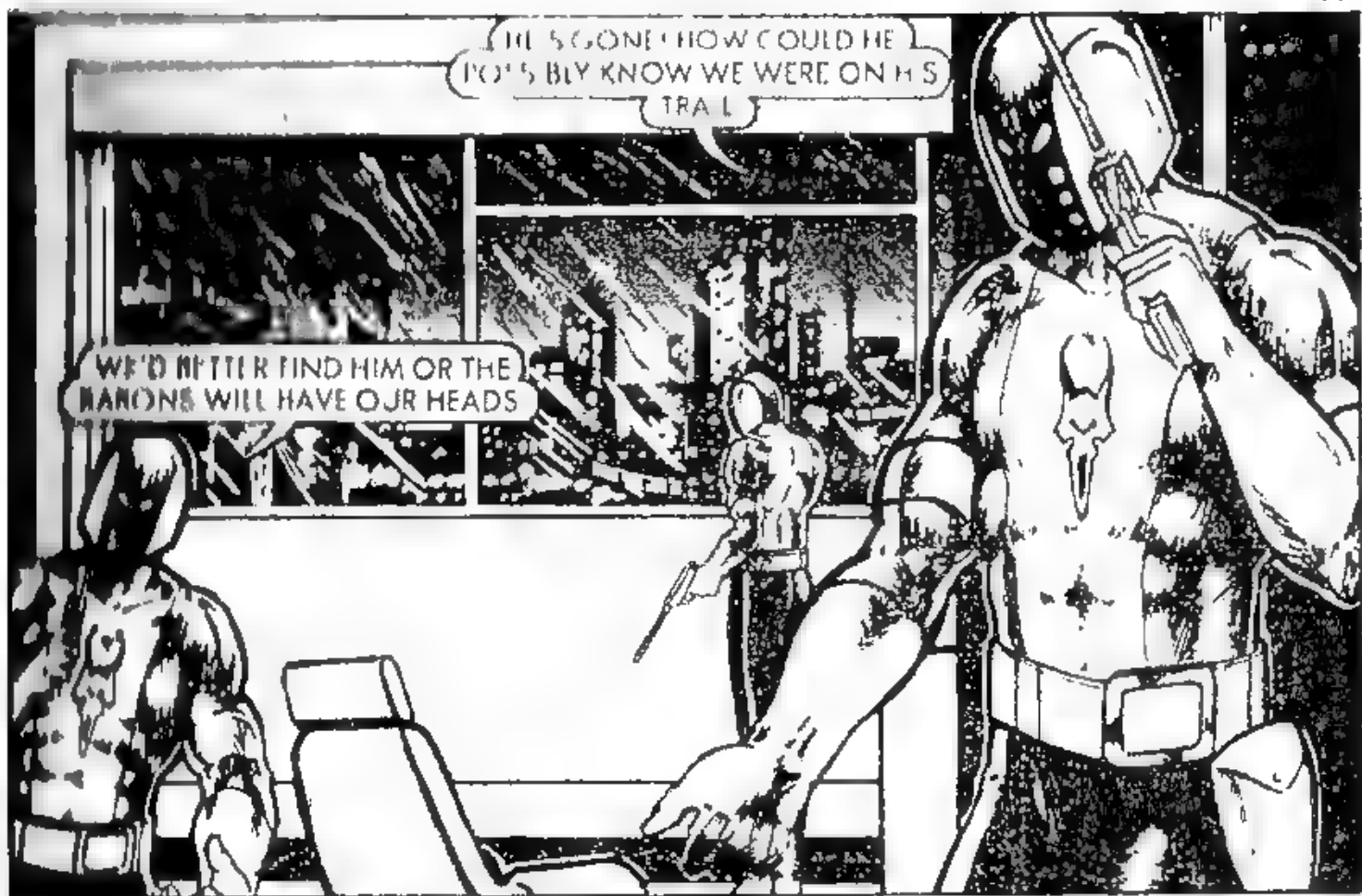


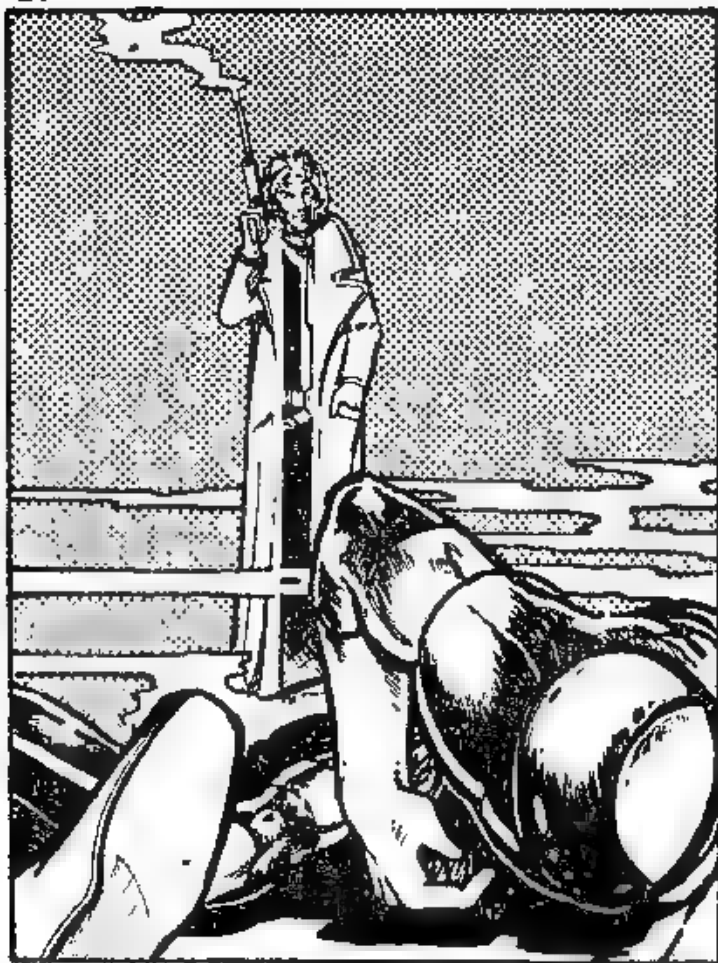
HERNE WAS OUTSIDE



HERNE CLIMBED THROUGH THE WINDOW OF THE NEXT ROOM, MUCH TO THE DISTRESS OF ITS OCCUPANT.









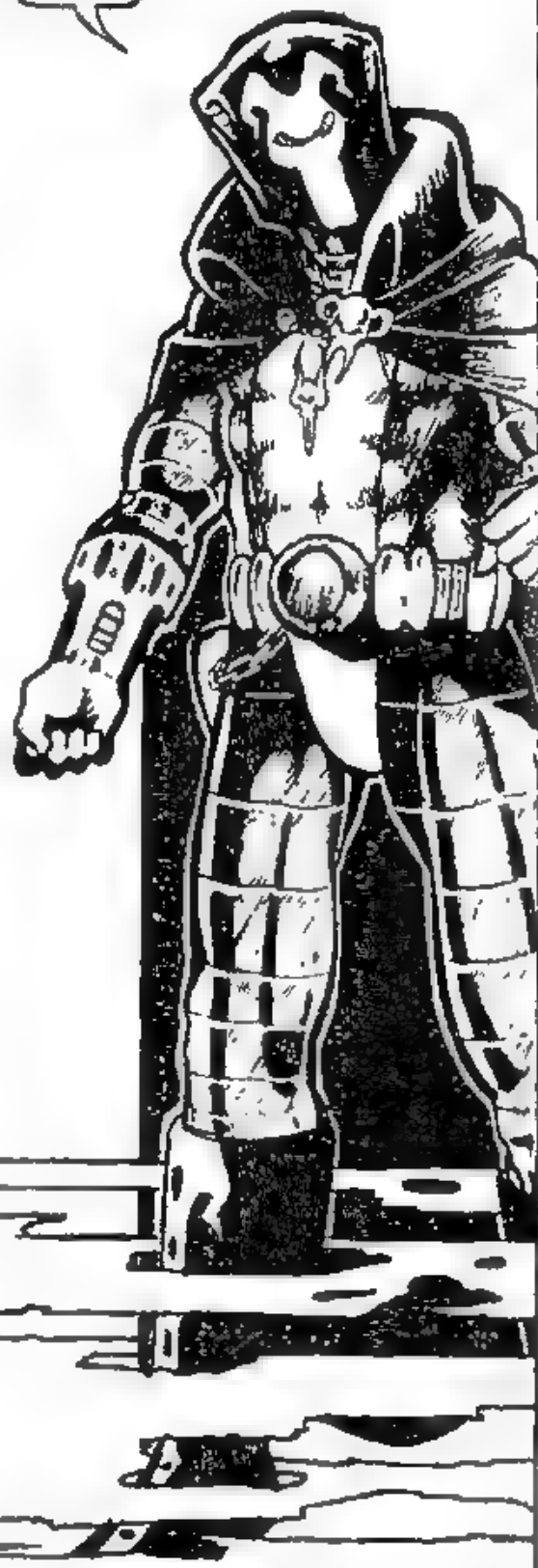


ON ABRAXIS, THE BARONS WERE READY TO  
PLAY THEIR MOST DANGEROUS CARD

YET ANOTHER FAILURE! YOU WOULD  
THINK THIS MAN WAS SUPERHUMAN.  
IT IS TIME WE SENT HIM A WORTHY  
FOE. LORD ALGOL—KILL HIM.

LORD ALGOL WAS THE STARBARONS' CHIEF  
ASSASSIN...

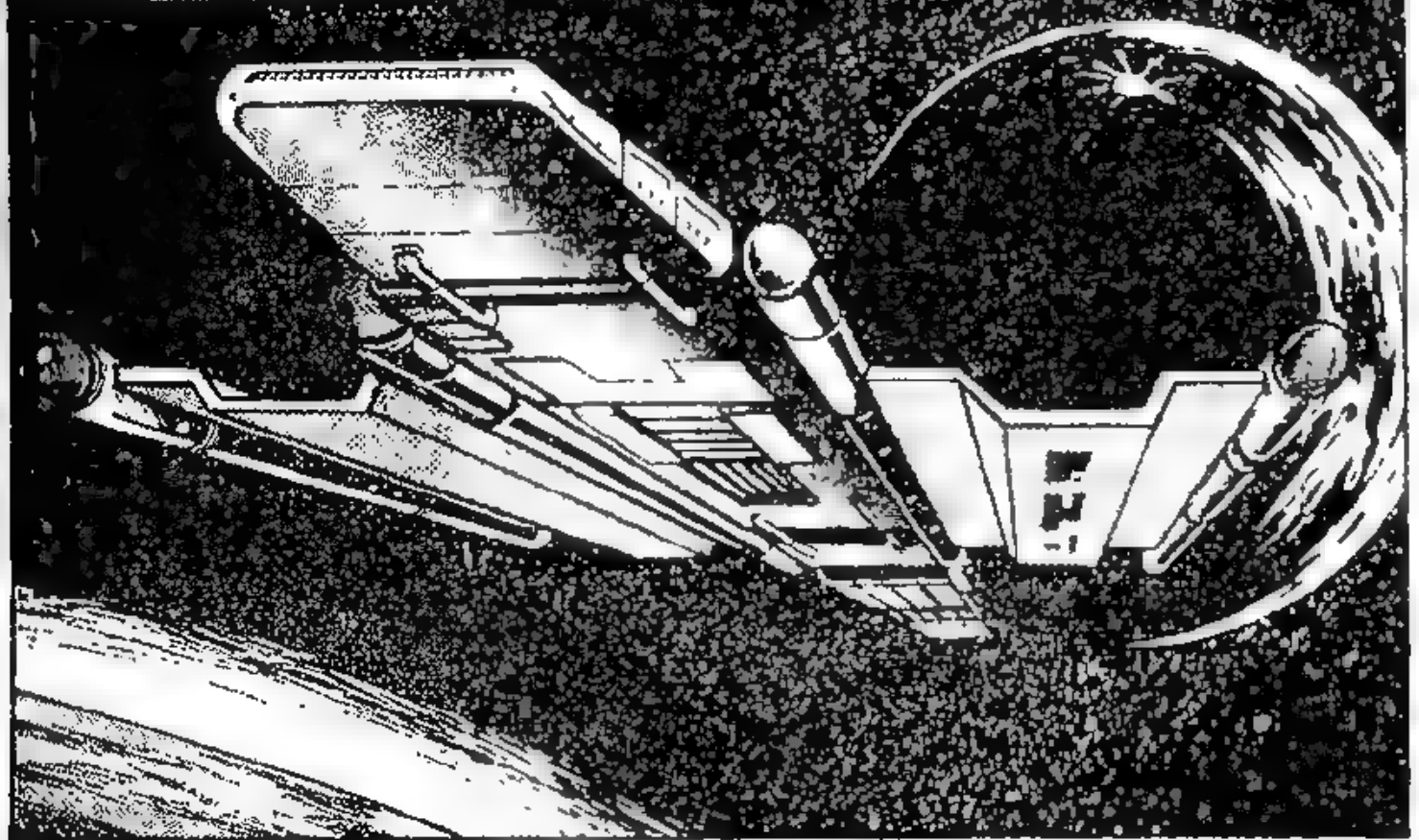
I... ALGOL THE TERRIBLE,  
WILL KILL THIS INFERIOR  
BEING.



YOUR BATTLE CRUISER IS READY, ALGOL  
TRIPPOUT UP IMMEDIATELY. DO NOT  
FAIL.



ALGOL'S BATTLECRUISER WAS IN ORBIT ROUND  
ABNAXIS, AND ON STAND-BY.



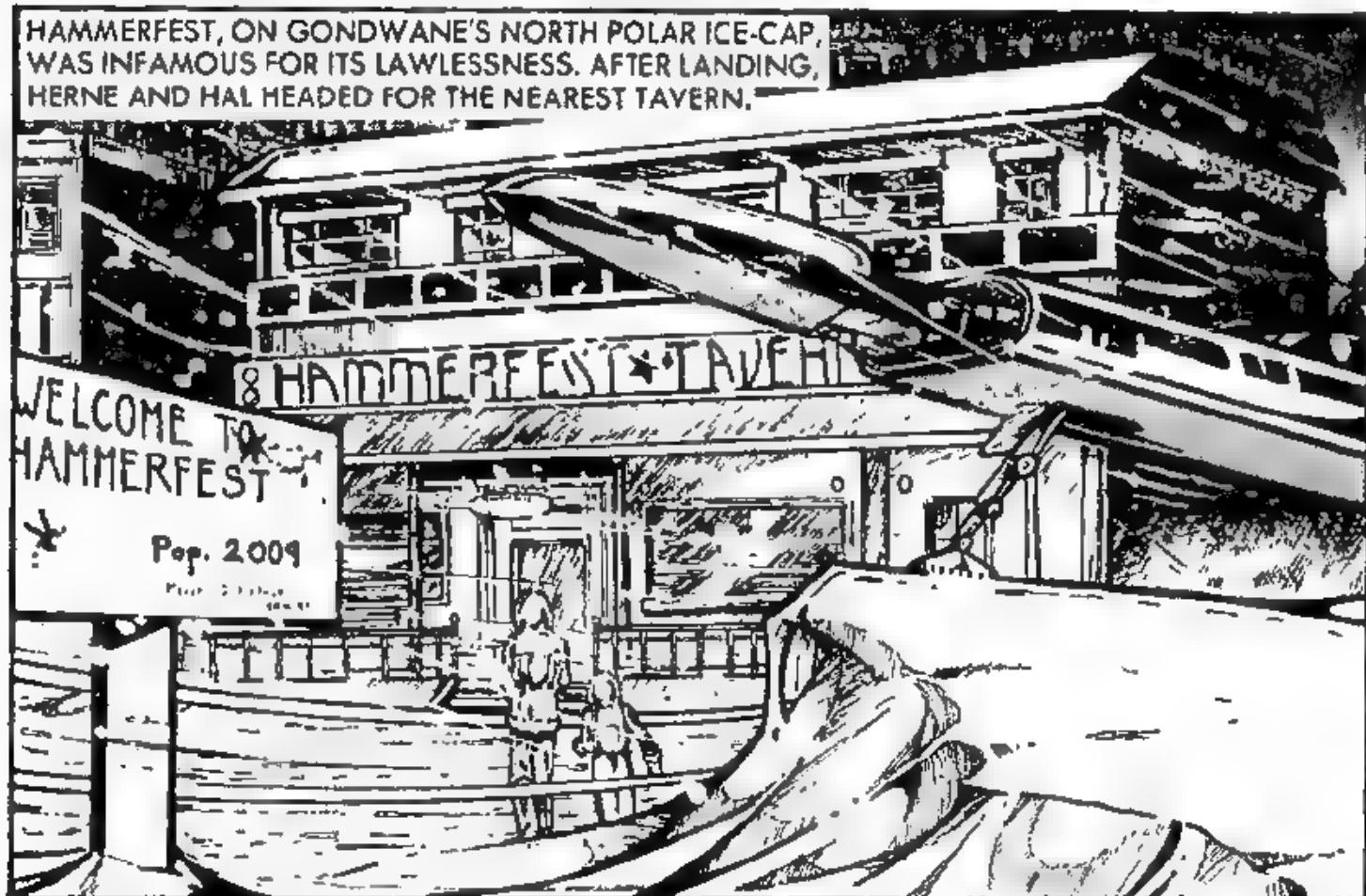


ALGOL TELEPORTED ONTO THE MAIN  
DECK OF HIS SHIP.

SET COURSE  
FOR GONDWANE.



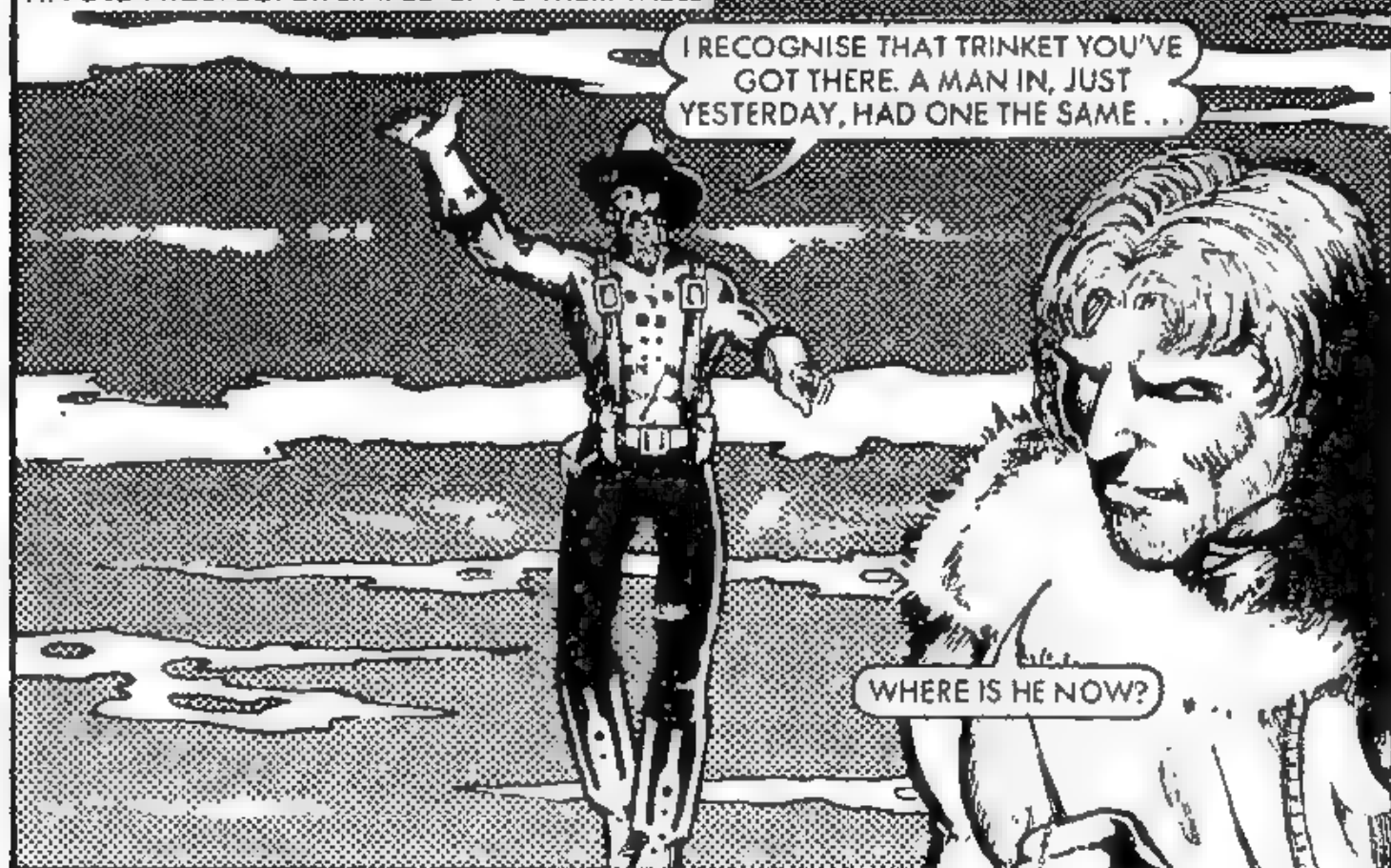
HAMMERFEST, ON GONDWANE'S NORTH POLAR ICE-CAP,  
WAS INFAMOUS FOR ITS LAWLESSNESS. AFTER LANDING,  
HERNE AND HAL HEADED FOR THE NEAREST TAVERN.







AN OLD PROSPECTOR LIMPED UP TO THEIR TABLE

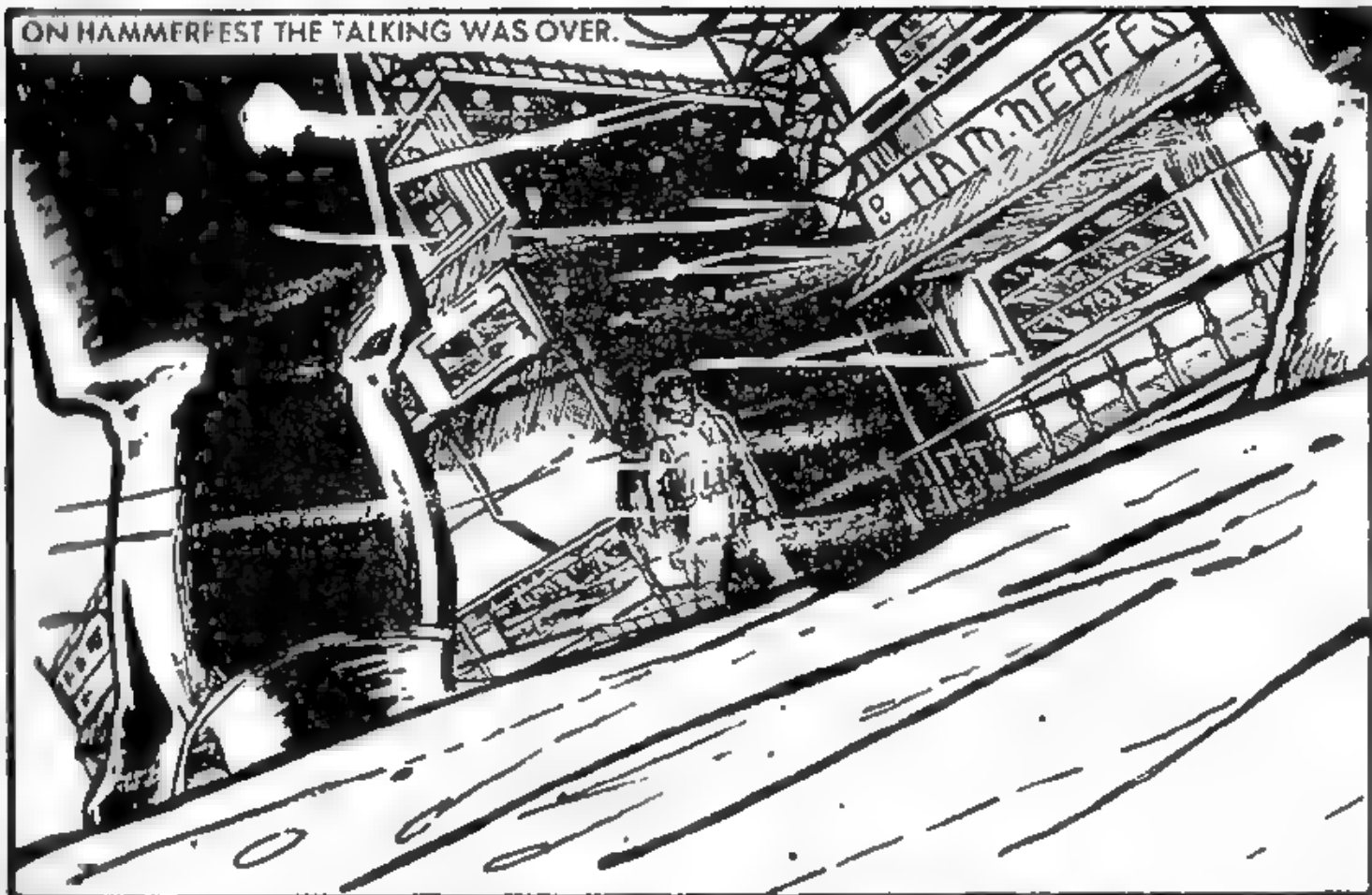








ON HAMMERFEST THE TALKING WAS OVER.



READY STRANGER!



I'M READY!





AS HAL WATCHED SOMETHING CAUGHT HIS EYE.



HERNE! HERNE!  
THEY'RE COMING!

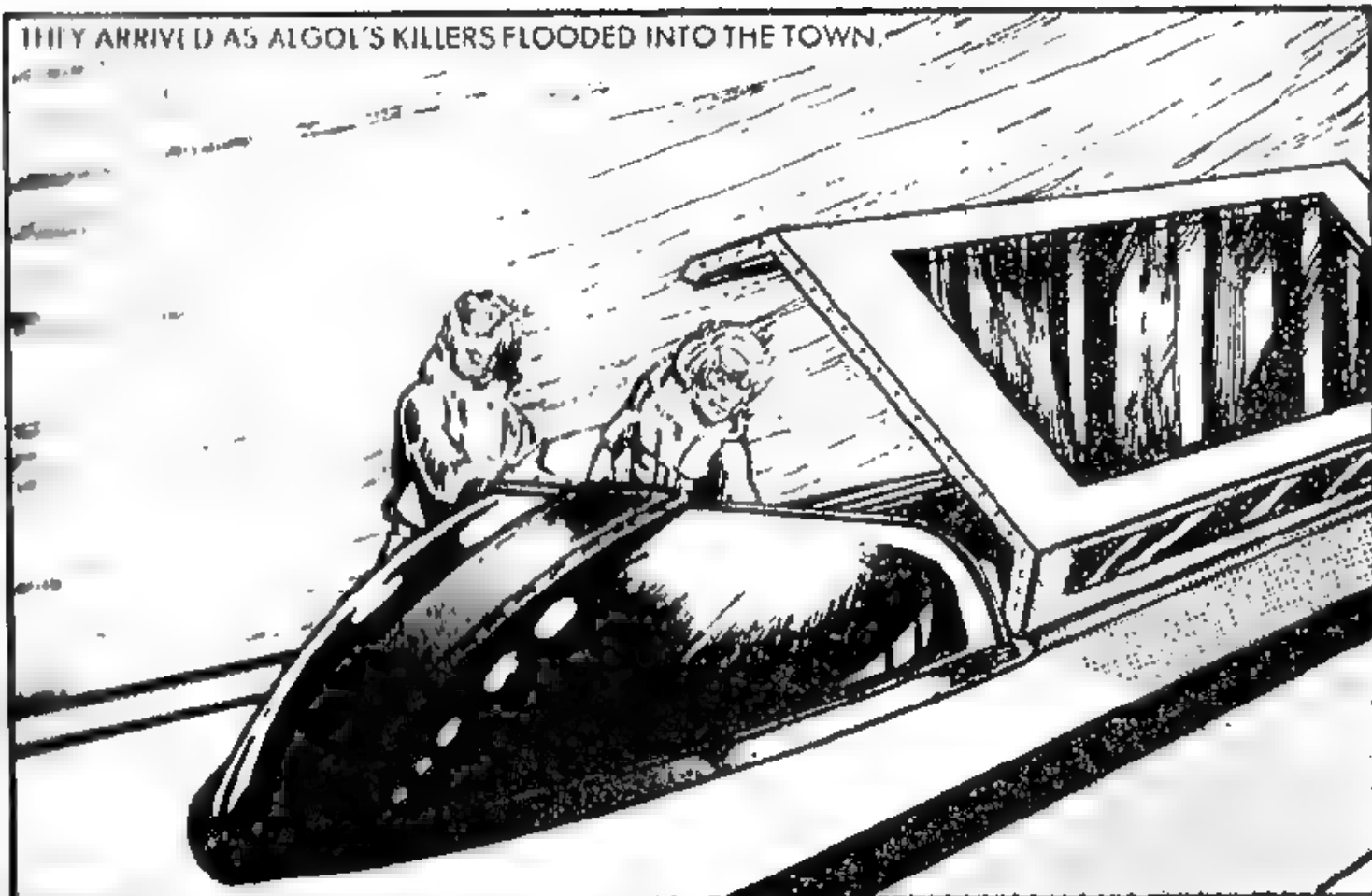


EVERYONE WAS SHOCKED AND FRIGHTENED BY THE SCENE.





THEY ARRIVED AS ALGOL'S KILLERS FLOODED INTO THE TOWN.

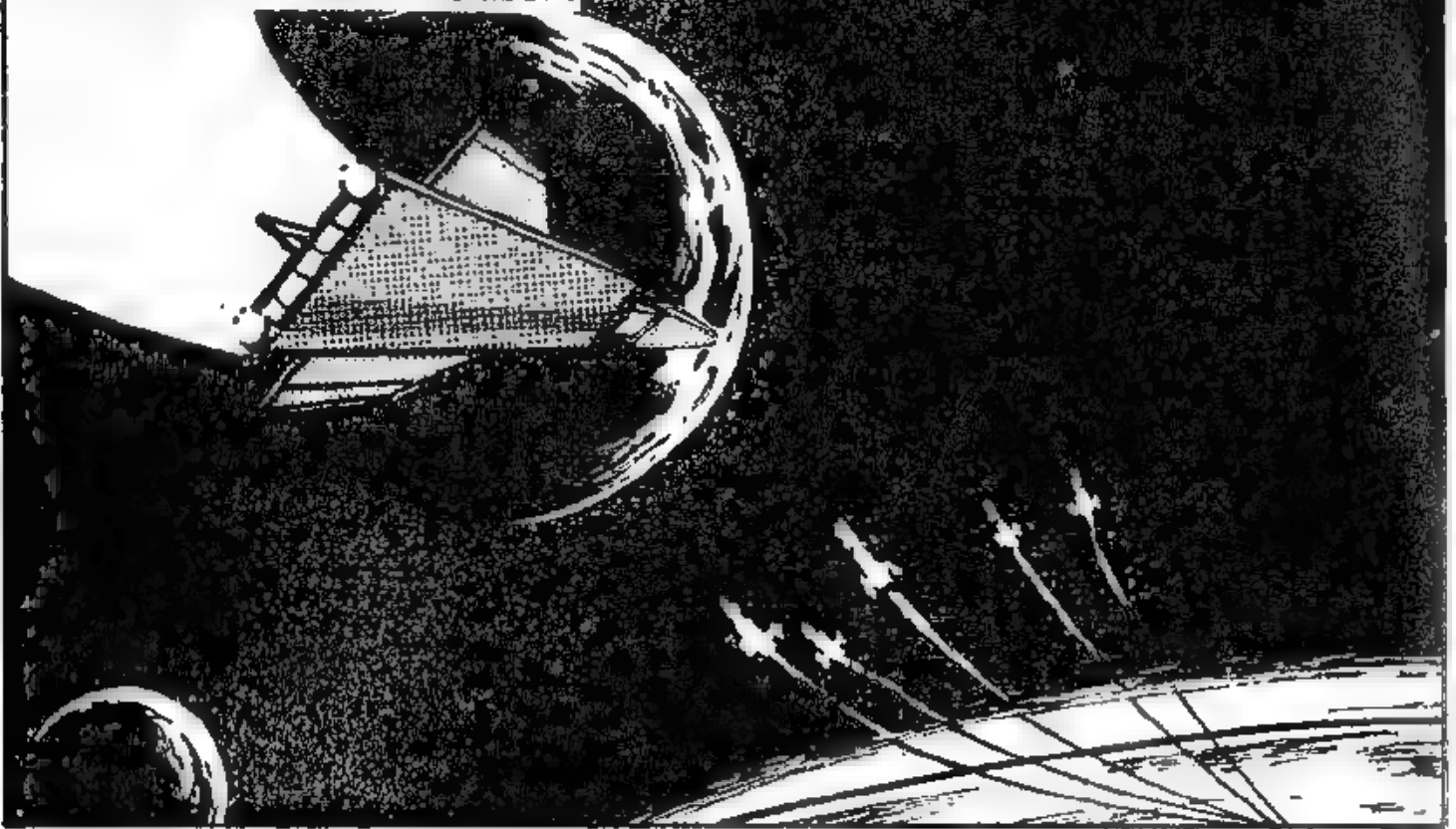


HAMMILLST'S CITIZENS WERE BRAVE BUT THERE WAS NO HOPE AGAINST THE SUPERIOR POWER OF THE STARBARONS.





HERNE'S SHIP WAS JUST CLEAR OF THE ATMOSPHERE WHEN A SQUADRON OF FIGHTER CRAFT APPEARED OVER THE HORIZON.

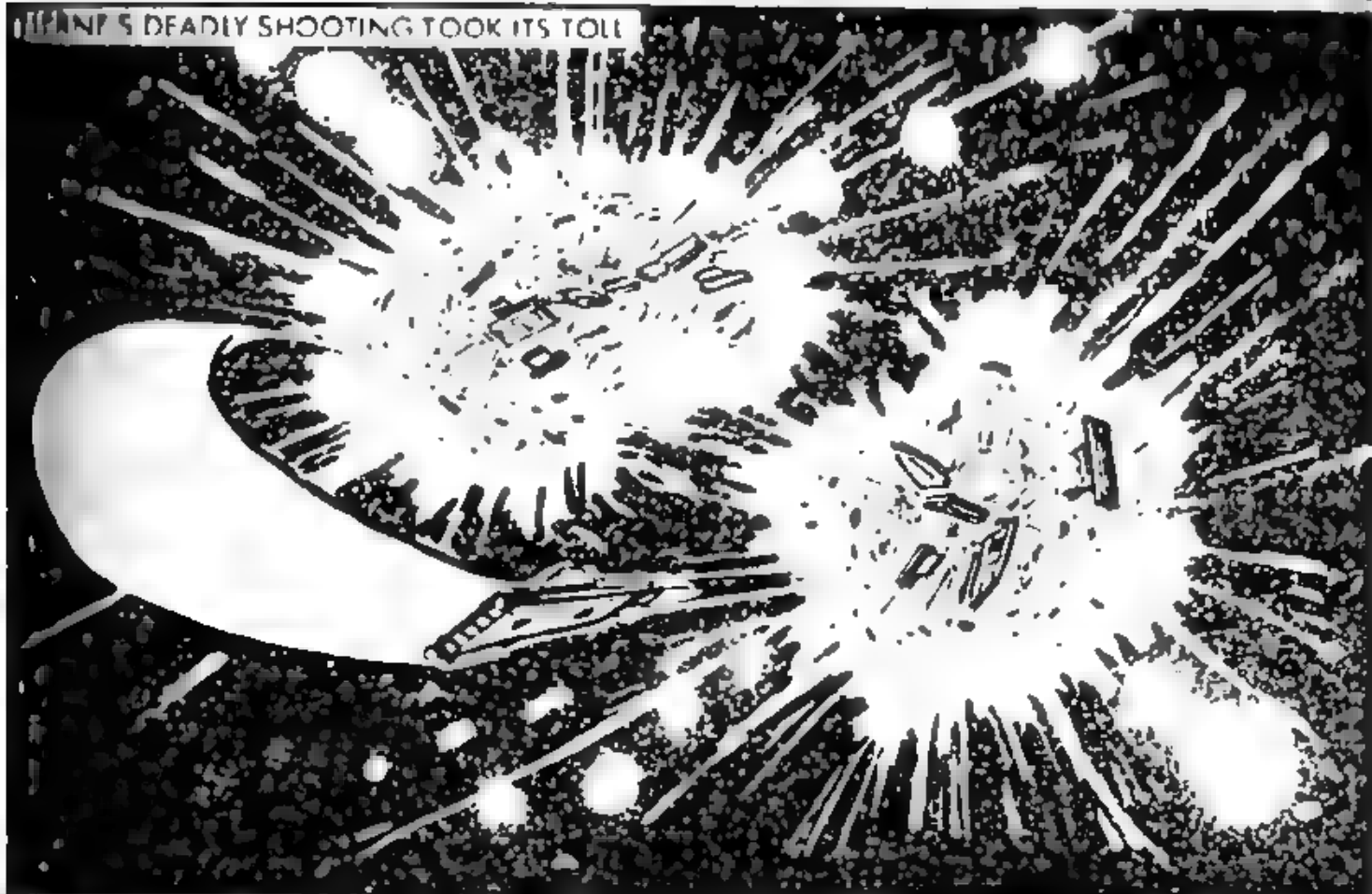


WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

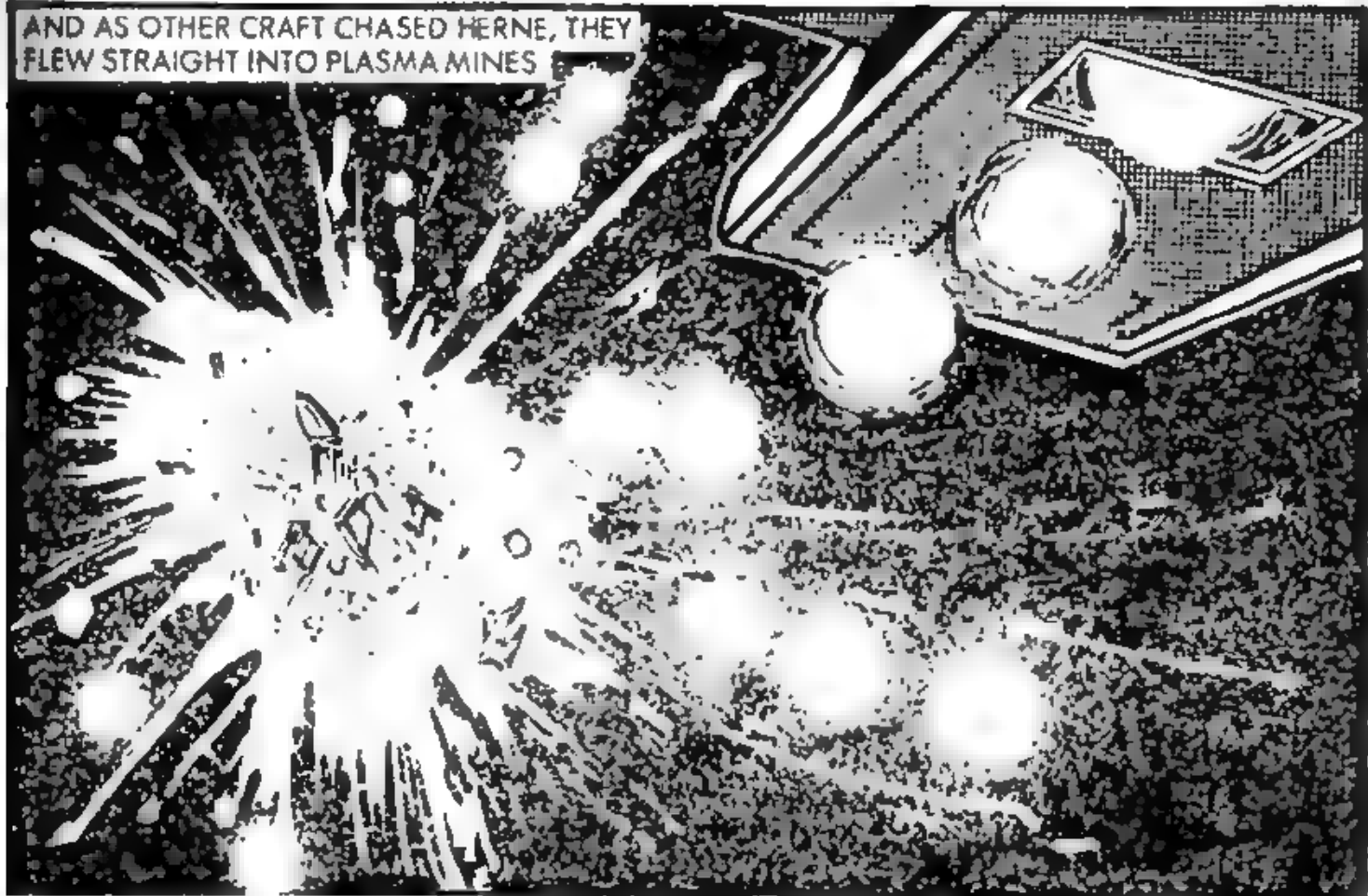
HEAD FOR THULE!



HERNE'S DEADLY SHOOTING TOOK ITS TOLL



AND AS OTHER CRAFT CHASED HERNE, THEY  
FLEW STRAIGHT INTO PLASMA MINES





ABOVE HAMMERFEST, IN ALGOL'S CRUISER.



THAT IS WHERE OUR INVINCIBLE FRIEND  
SEEMS TO BE GOING. WE MUST FOLLOW.  
EVERY MOMENT INCREASES THE DANGER  
TO OUR MASTERS AND OURSELVES.



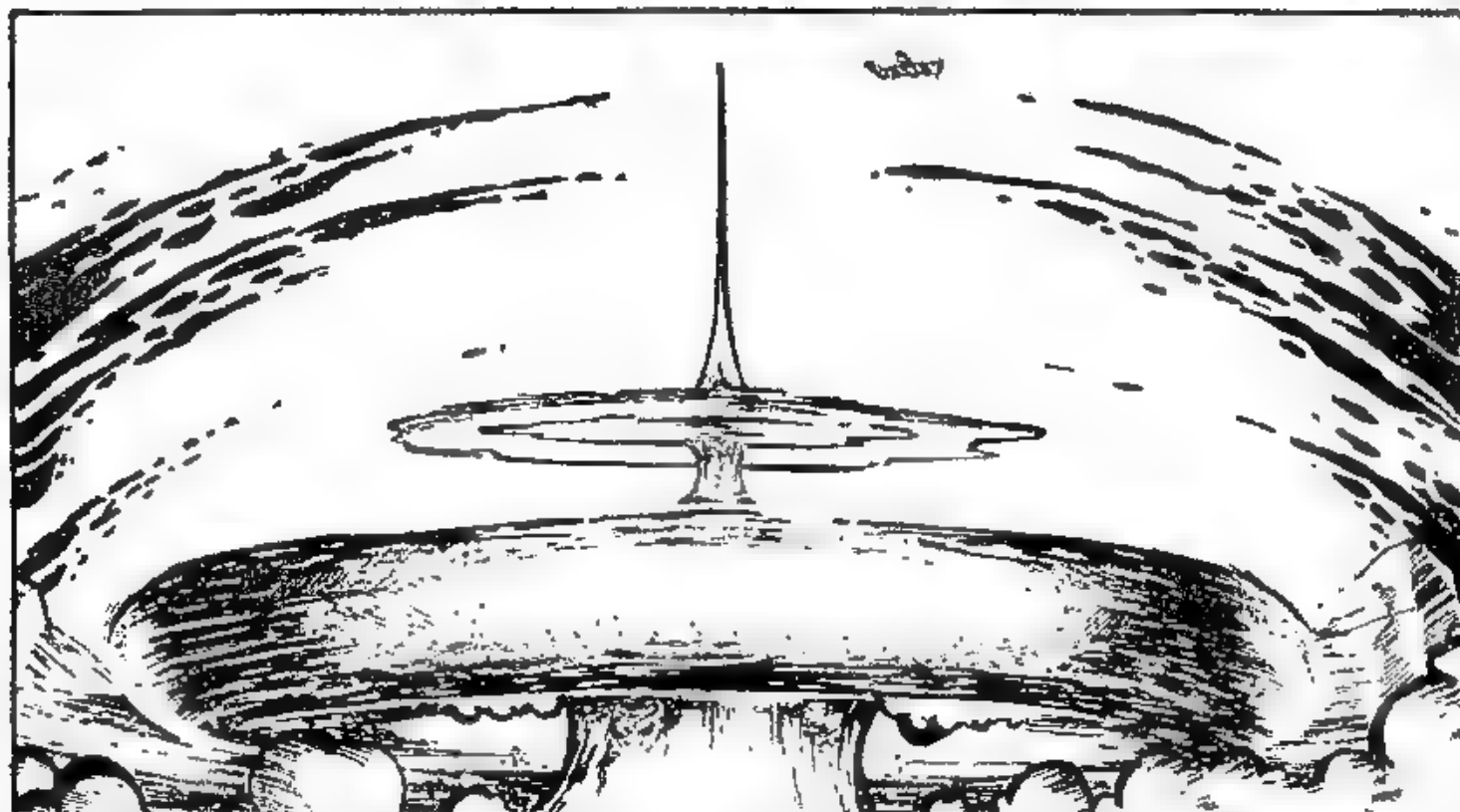
SURELY THERE CAN BE NO WEAPON  
POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DESTROY THE  
BARONS?

WE CAN TAKE NO RISKS. ALL OUR STAR-  
SHIPS ARE CONTROLLED BY THE POWER  
BATTERY ON ABRAXIS. IF THE BARONS  
ARE DESTROYED, WE WILL GO WITH  
THEM.





RELEASE PHOTON BOMBS.



THE BOMBS DROPPED ON HAMMERFEST, AND THE TITANIC EXPLOSION SHOOK THE PLANET AND MELTED WHOLE MOUNTAINS. ALL THAT REMAINED OF HAMMERFEST WAS A CLOUD OF DRIFTING ATOMS. SLOWLY ALGO'S CRUISER TURNED AND BLASTED INTO SPACE.

THULE WAS THE LAST OUTPOST OF THE GALAXY RARELY VISITED

WE' L, WE'RE HERE, HERNE

ON THULE'S SECOND LARGEST MOON, WHICH HAD AN OXYGEN-NITROGEN ATMOSPHERE, HERNE FOUND KELVIN AND HIS STARSHIP.

SO MY BROTHER IS DEAD?  
THE BARONS WILL PAY FOR THIS!

WILL SOMEONE TELL ME WHAT'S HAPPENING?  
I KNOW IT'S SOMETHING TO DO WITH HERNE'S  
MEDALLION.

LISTEN, AND I'LL TELL YOU  
THE WHOLE STORY. LOOK.



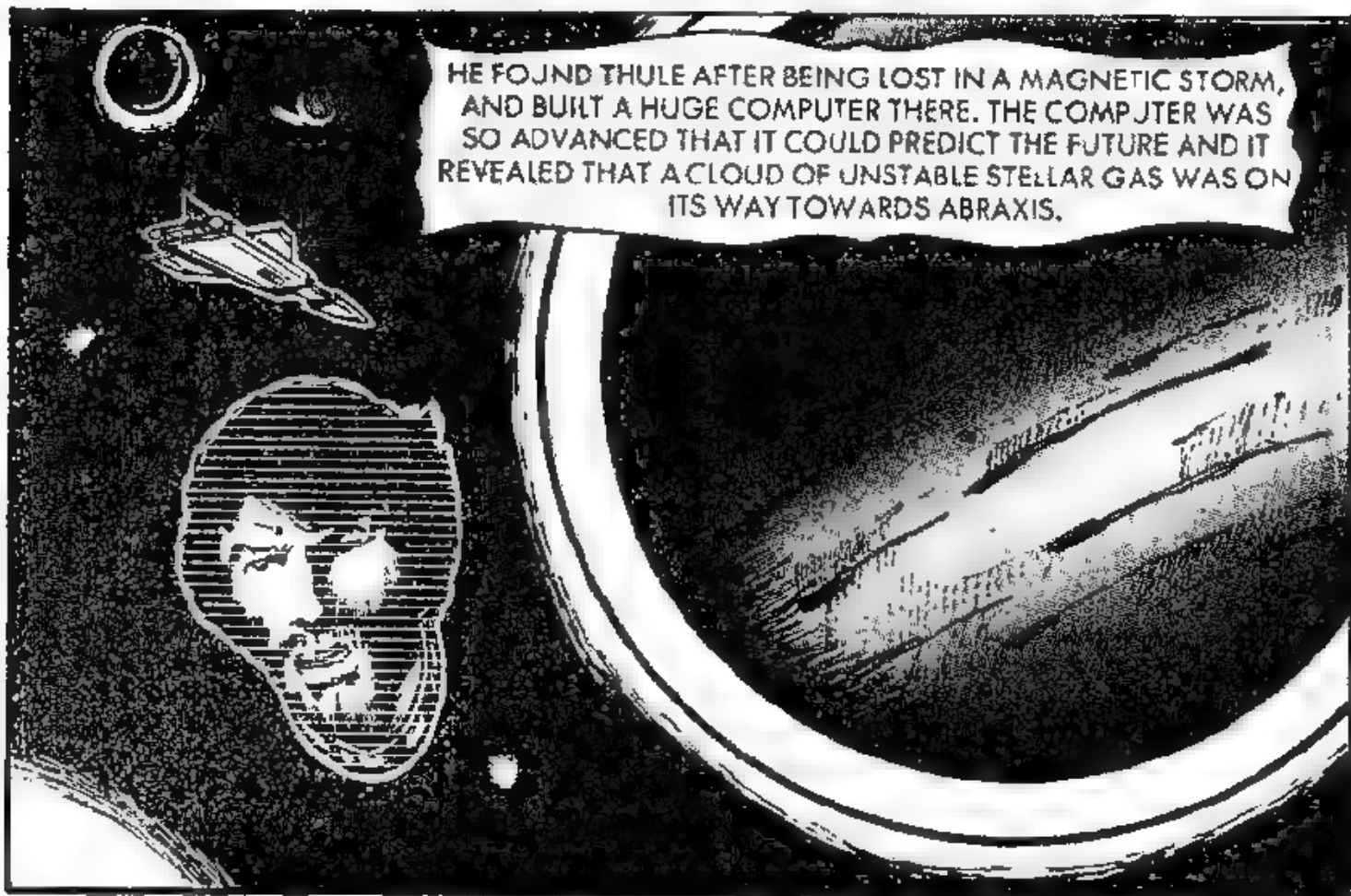
YOU SEE? THIS IS THE ONE THING THAT WILL  
DESTROY THE BARONS.



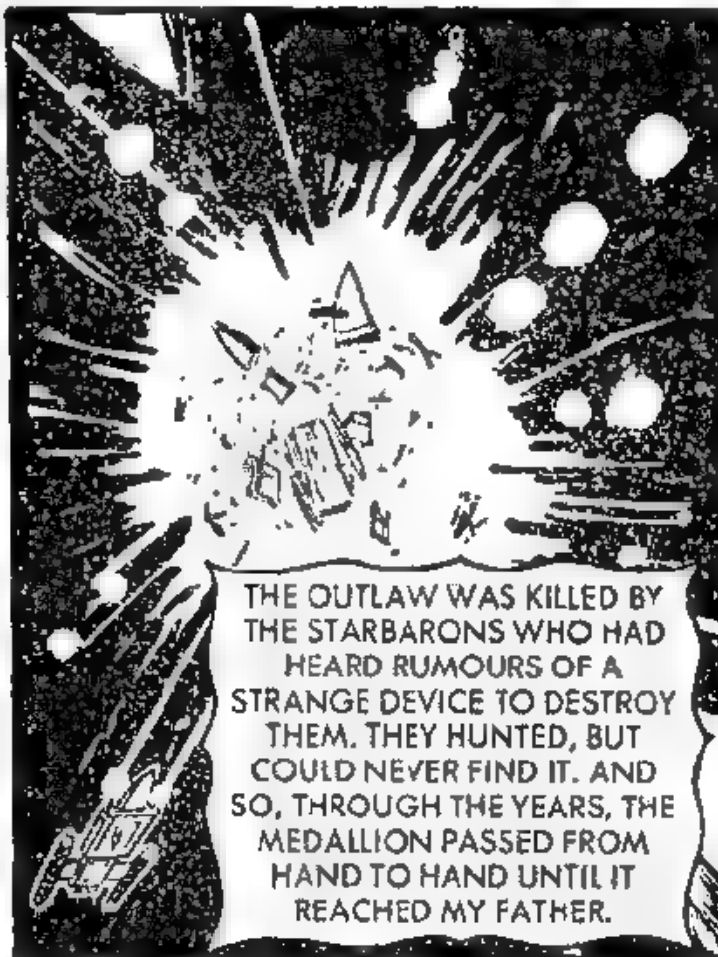
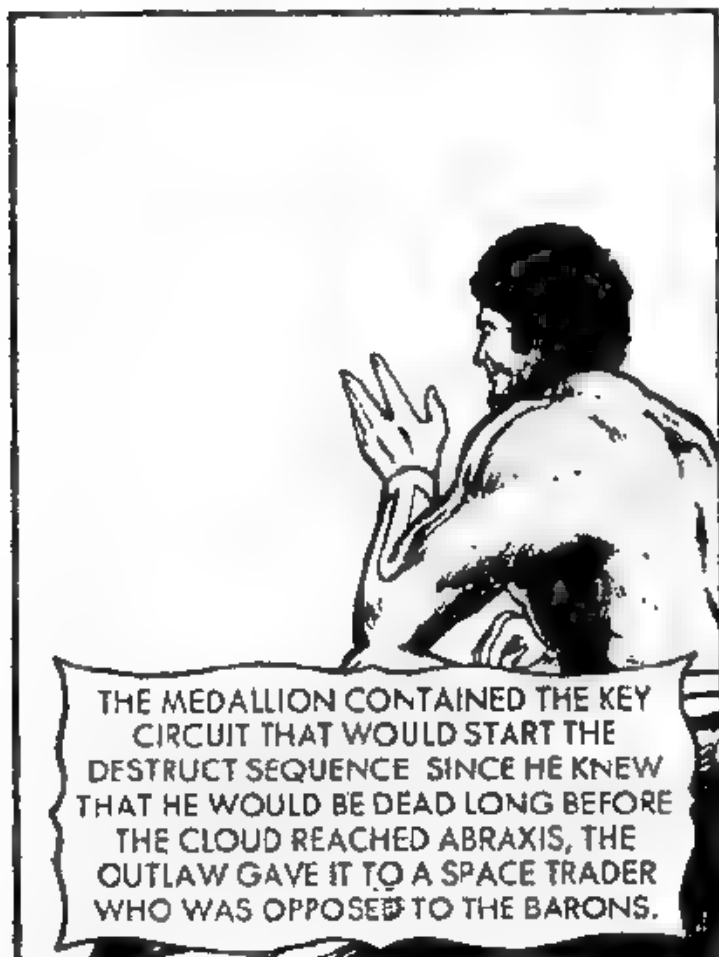
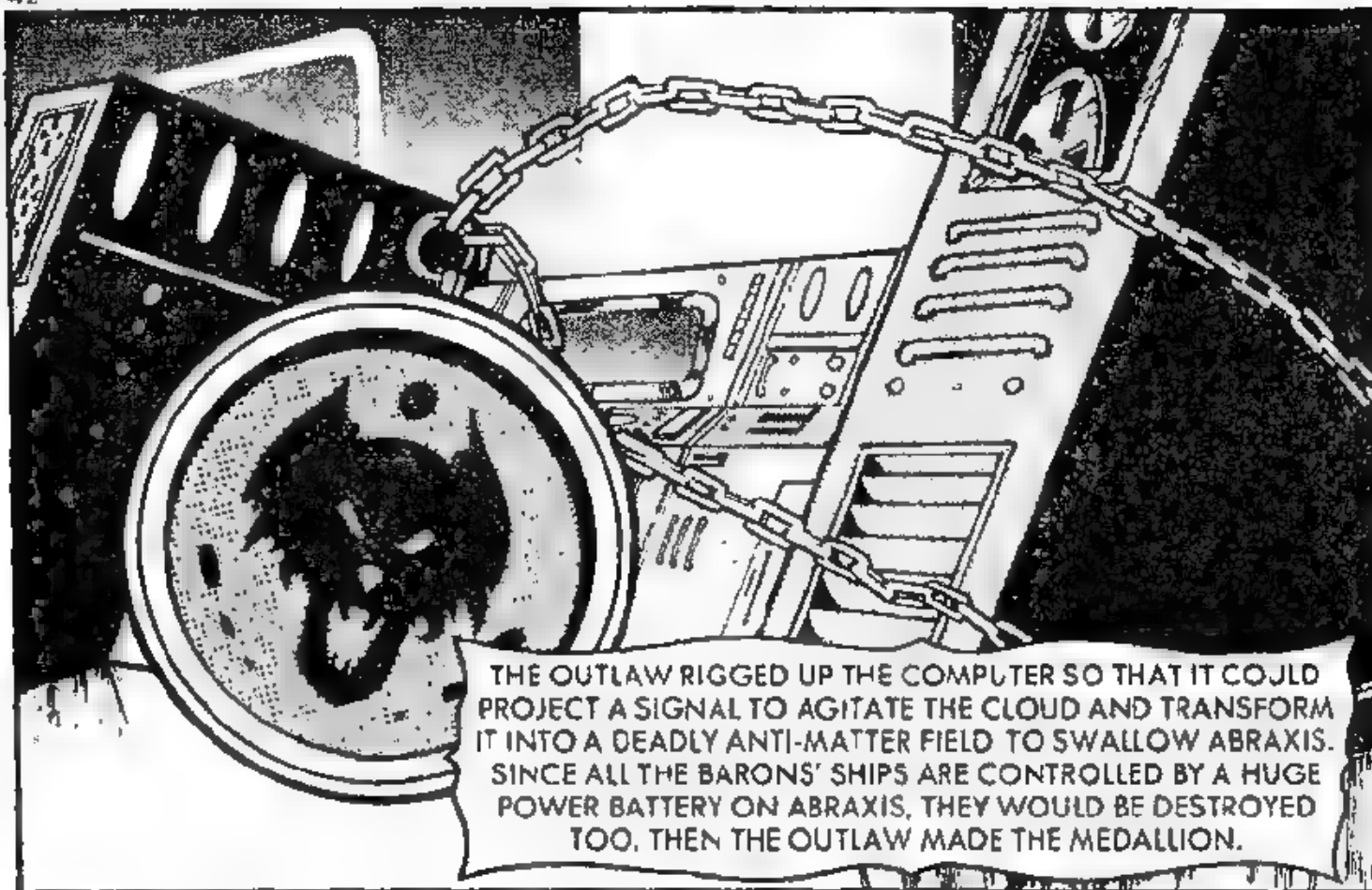
IT ALL BEGAN SIXTY YEARS AGO,  
WHEN AN OUTLAW DARED TO  
CHALLENGE THE POWER OF THE  
BARONS...



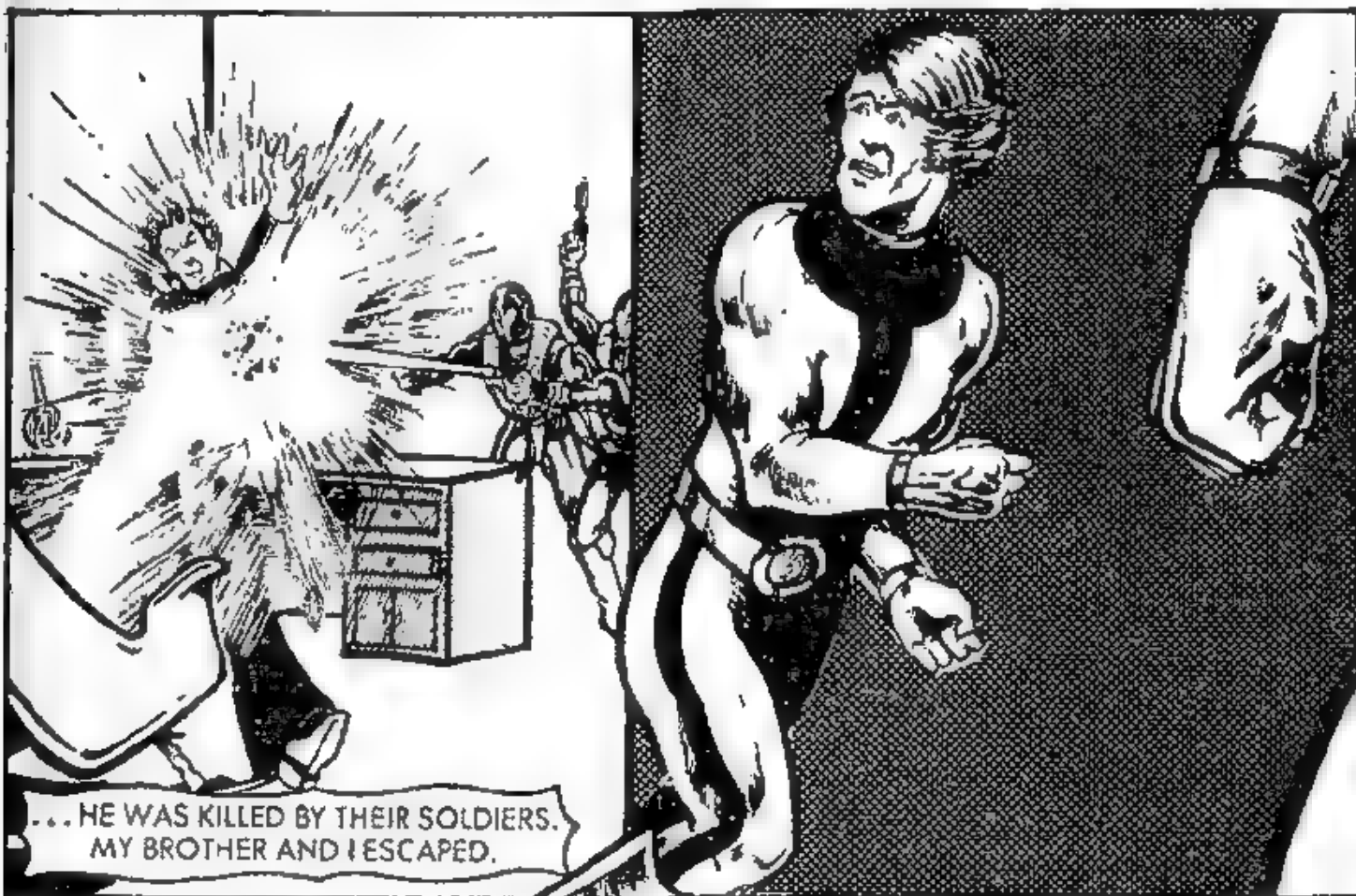
HE FOUND THULE AFTER BEING LOST IN A MAGNETIC STORM,  
AND BUILT A HUGE COMPUTER THERE. THE COMPUTER WAS  
SO ADVANCED THAT IT COULD PREDICT THE FUTURE AND IT  
REVEALED THAT A CLOUD OF UNSTABLE STELLAR GAS WAS ON  
ITS WAY TOWARDS ABRAXIS.



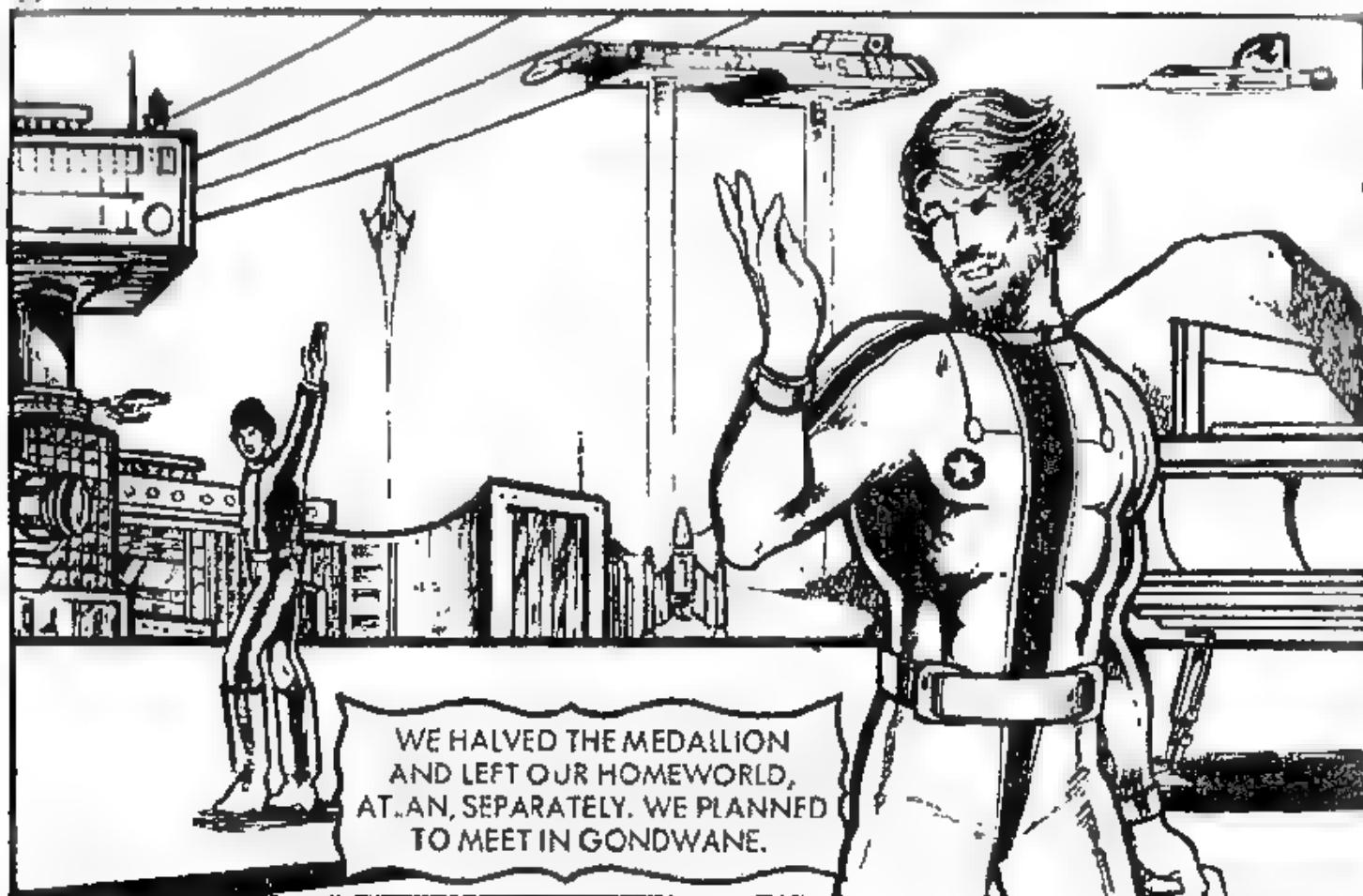


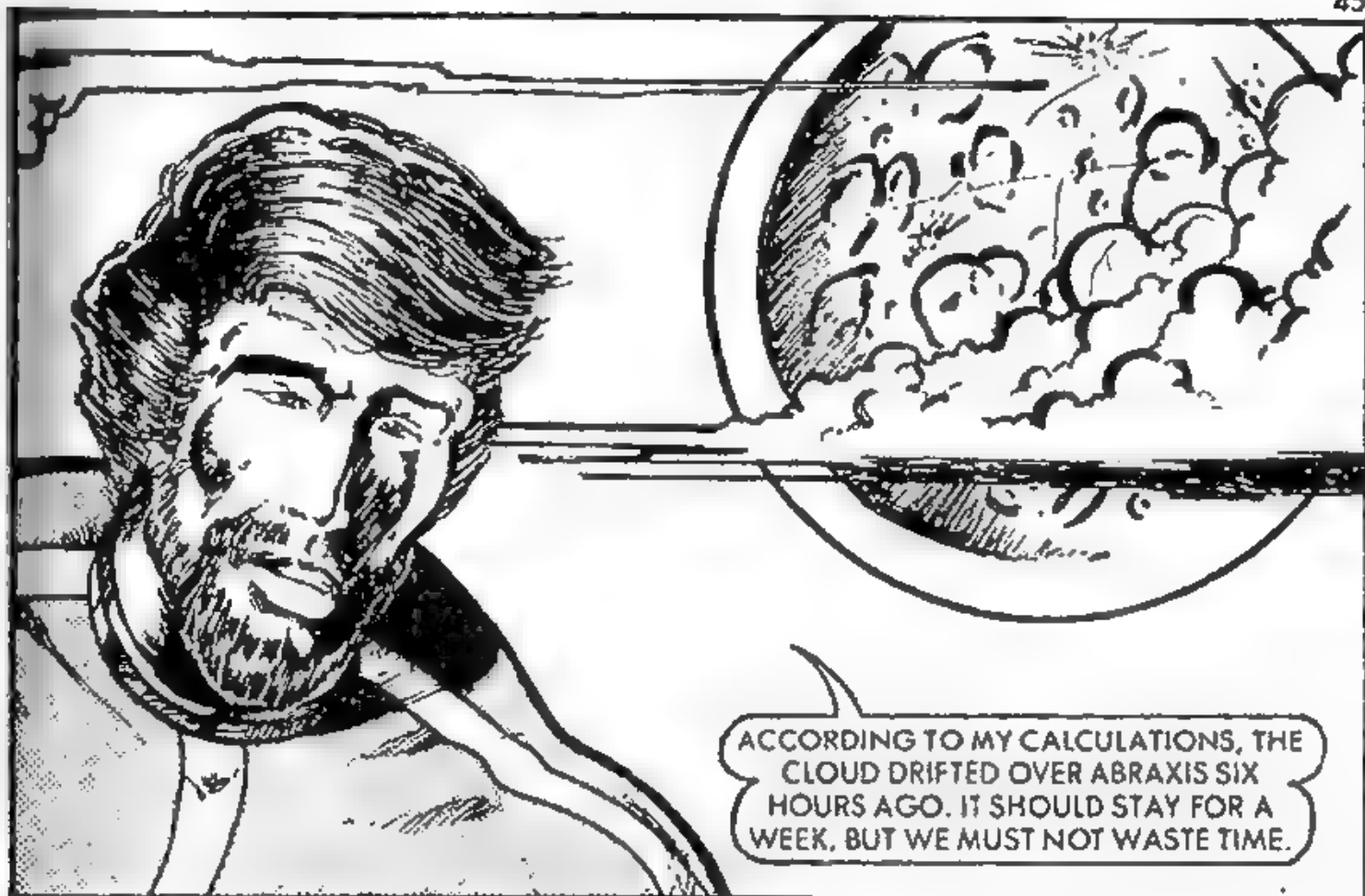


MY FATHER DISCOVERED A CODED TAPE WOUND THROUGH THE CHAIN THAT TOLD THE WHOLE STORY AND REVEALED THE CO-ORDINATES OF THULE. AN INFORMER TOLD THE BARONS ABOUT MY FATHER'S WORK AND ONLY WEEKS AGO...



... HE WAS KILLED BY THEIR SOLDIERS. MY BROTHER AND I ESCAPED.





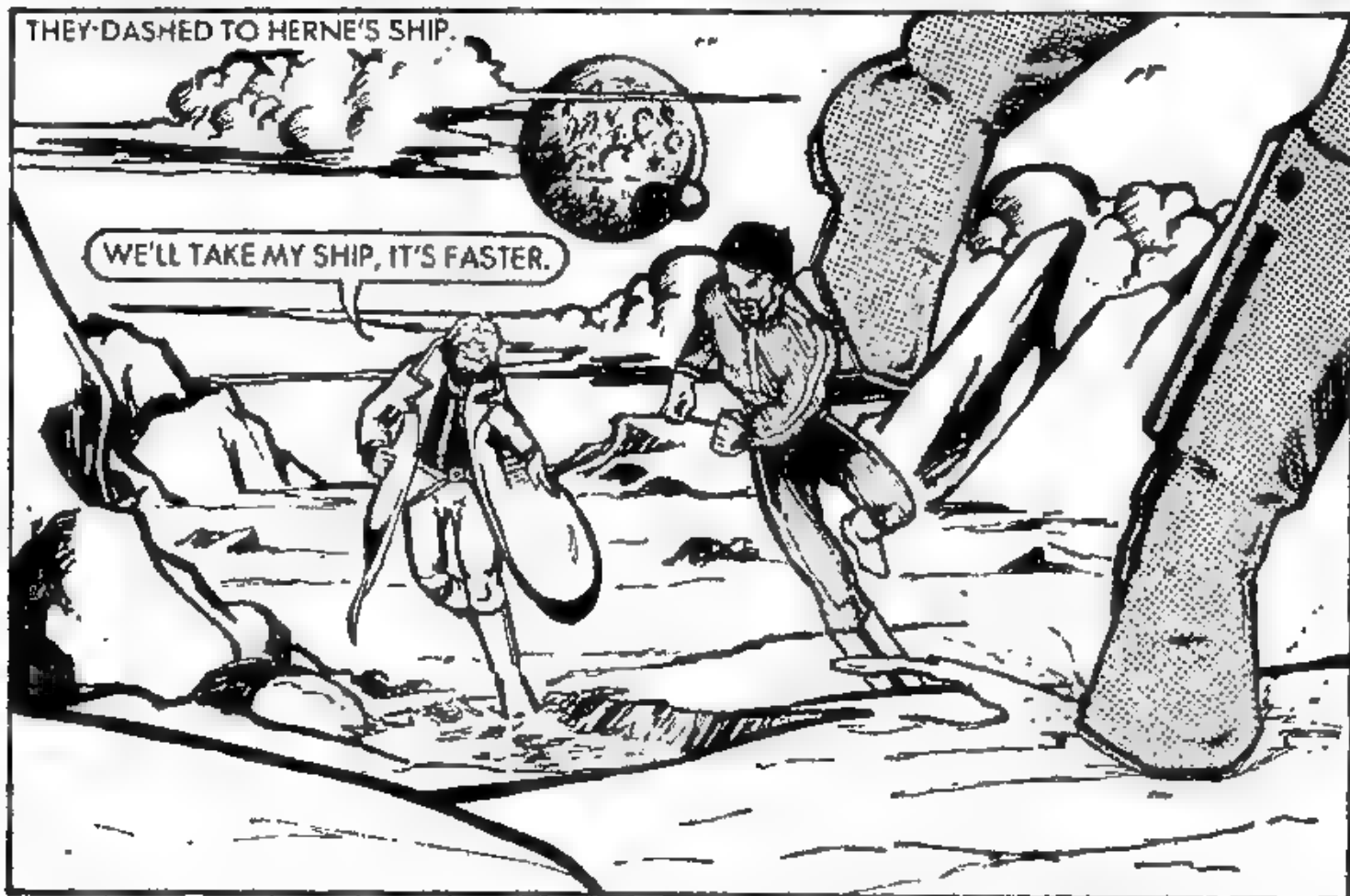
ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, THE CLOUD DRIFTED OVER ABRAXIS SIX HOURS AGO. IT SHOULD STAY FOR A WEEK, BUT WE MUST NOT WASTE TIME.



YOU'RE RIGHT. AND WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED.

FOLLOWED?





THEY LIFTED OFF AND TURNED TOWARDS THULE.



BUT ALGOL WAS NOT FAR BEHIND.



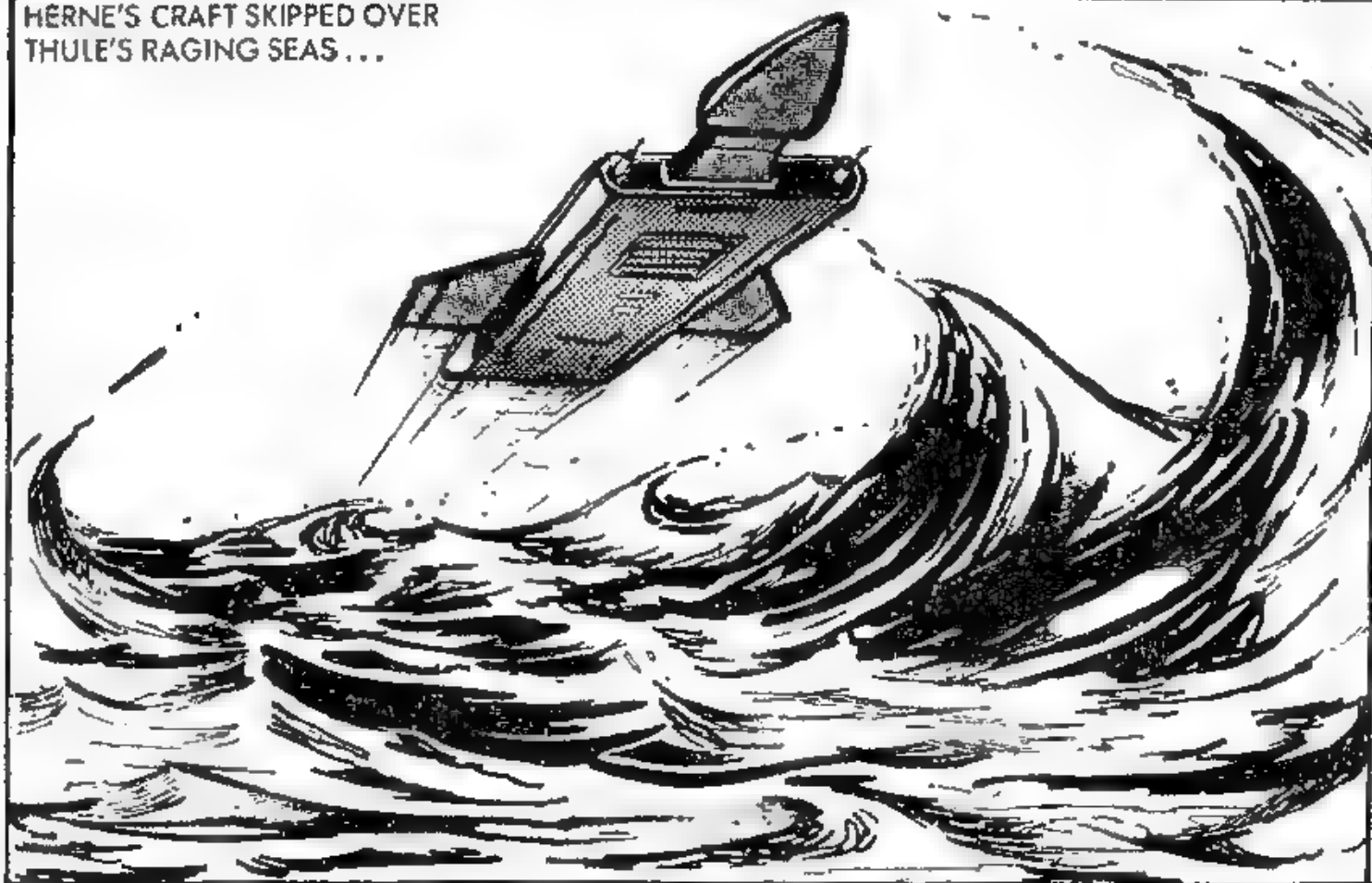
THE DEVICE MUST BE ON THULE.  
CONTACT ABRAXIS AND TELL  
THEM OF OUR ARRIVAL HERE!



NO MATTER, WE WILL DEAL WITH THEM. PREPARE THE FIGHTER CRAFT, AND GIVE US MORE SPEED!



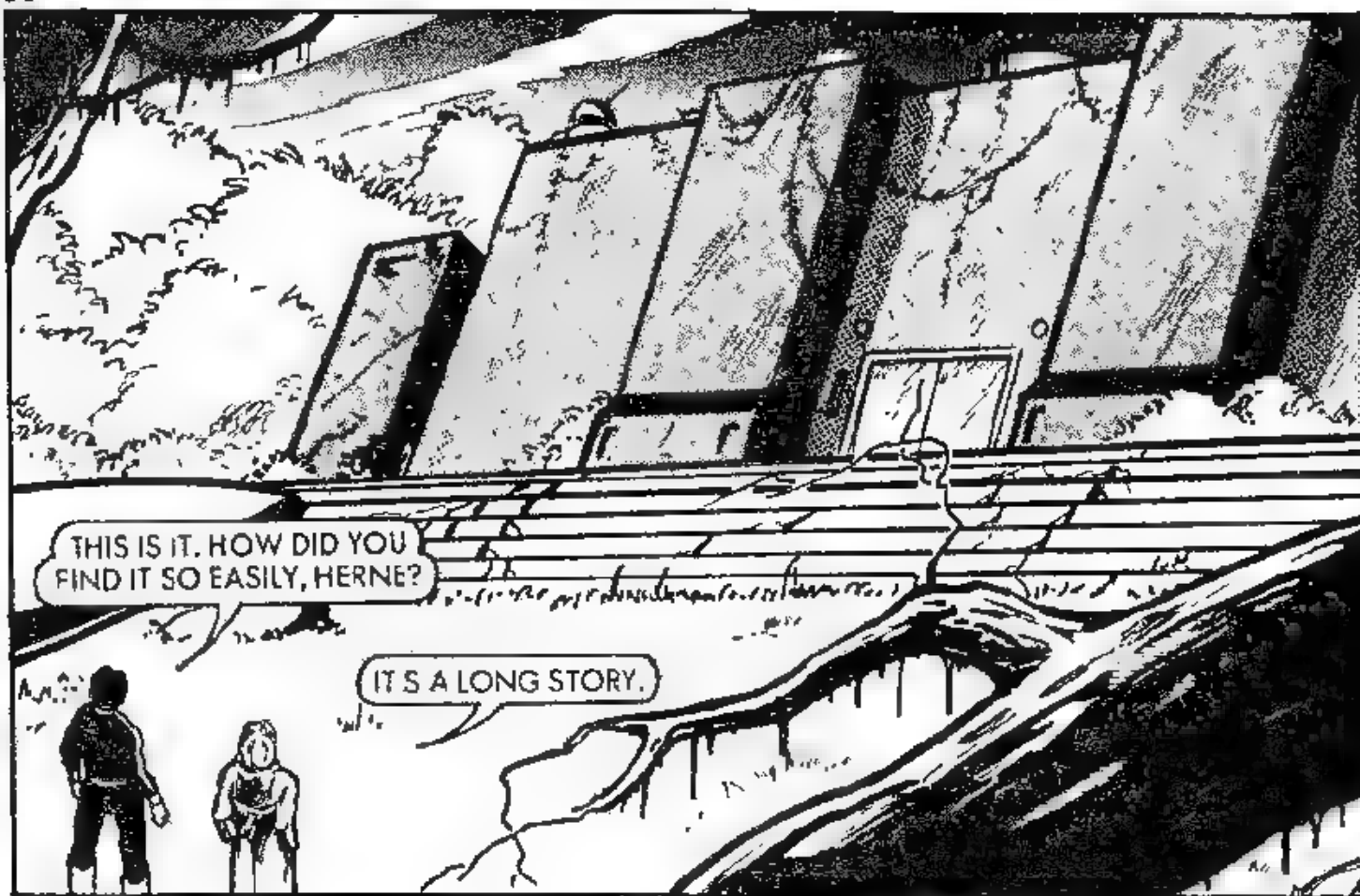
HERNE'S CRAFT SKIPPED OVER  
THULE'S RAGING SEAS...



... AND LANDED ON A SMALL ISLAND





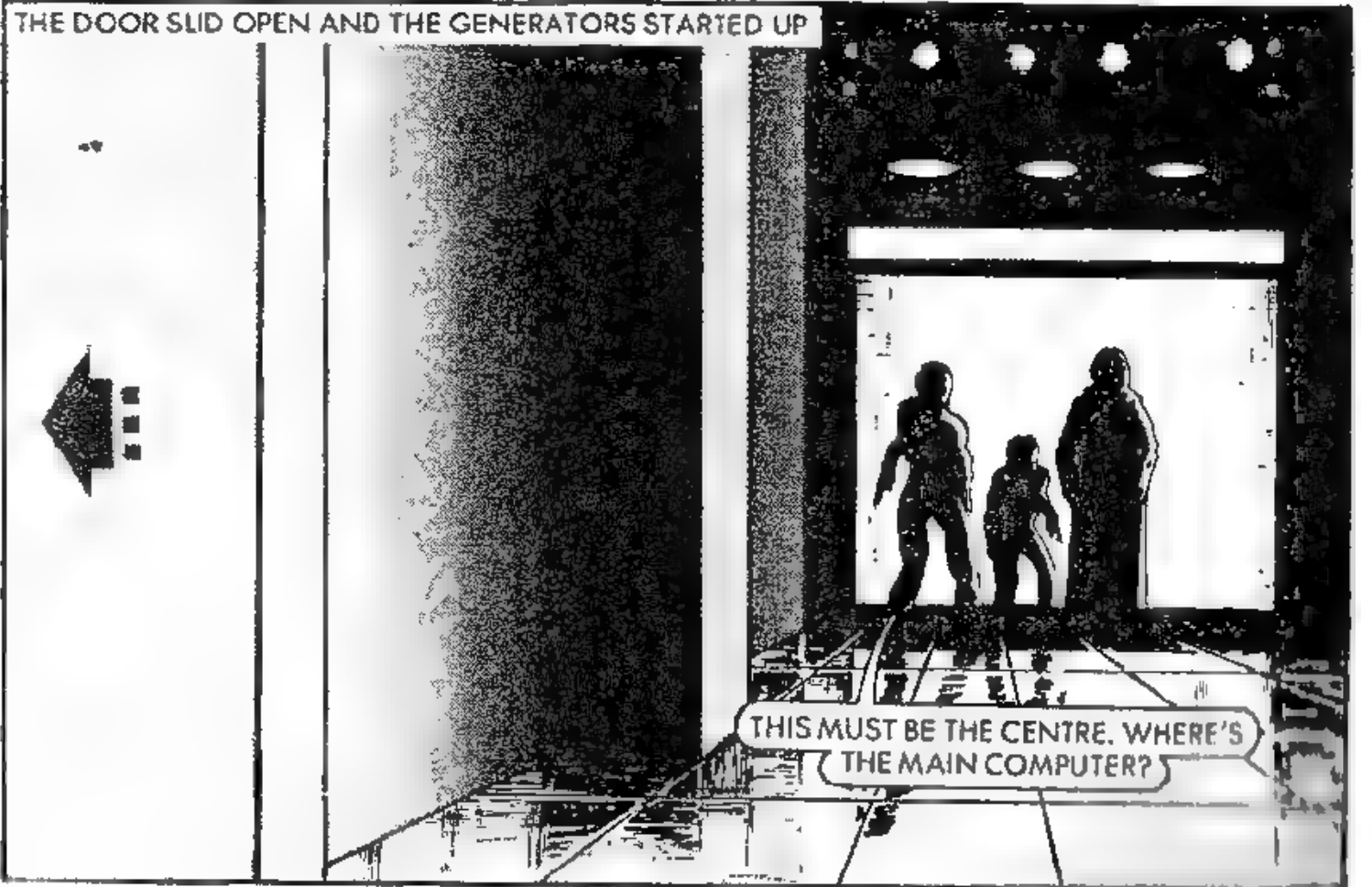


HERNE PUT THE MEDALLION INTO A SLOT IN THE WALL

THIS IS ALSO THE KEY



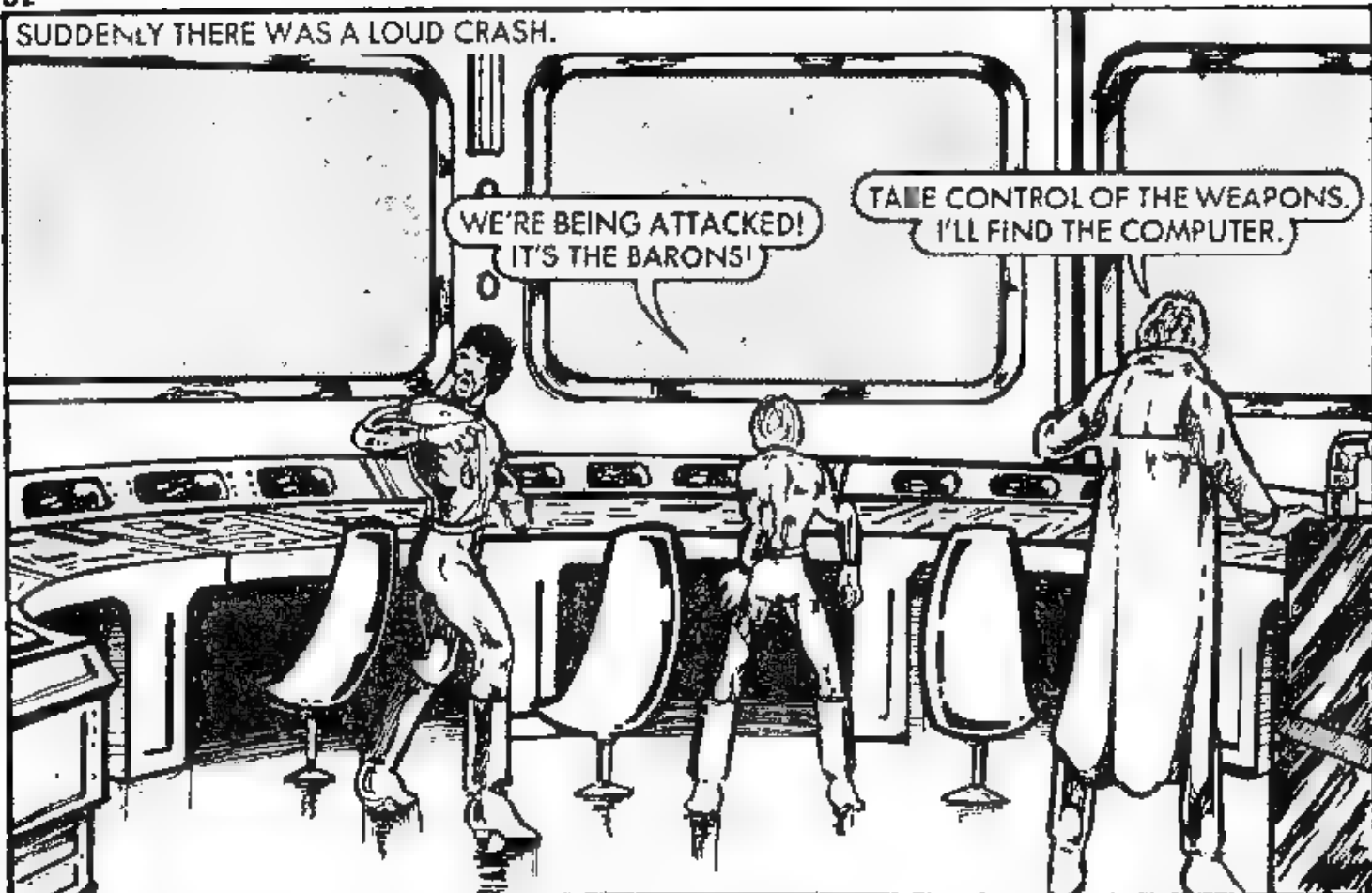
THE DOOR SLID OPEN AND THE GENERATORS STARTED UP



SUDDENLY THERE WAS A LOUD CRASH.

WE'RE BEING ATTACKED!  
IT'S THE BARONS!

TAKE CONTROL OF THE WEAPONS.  
I'LL FIND THE COMPUTER.



ALGO'S ARRIVED.



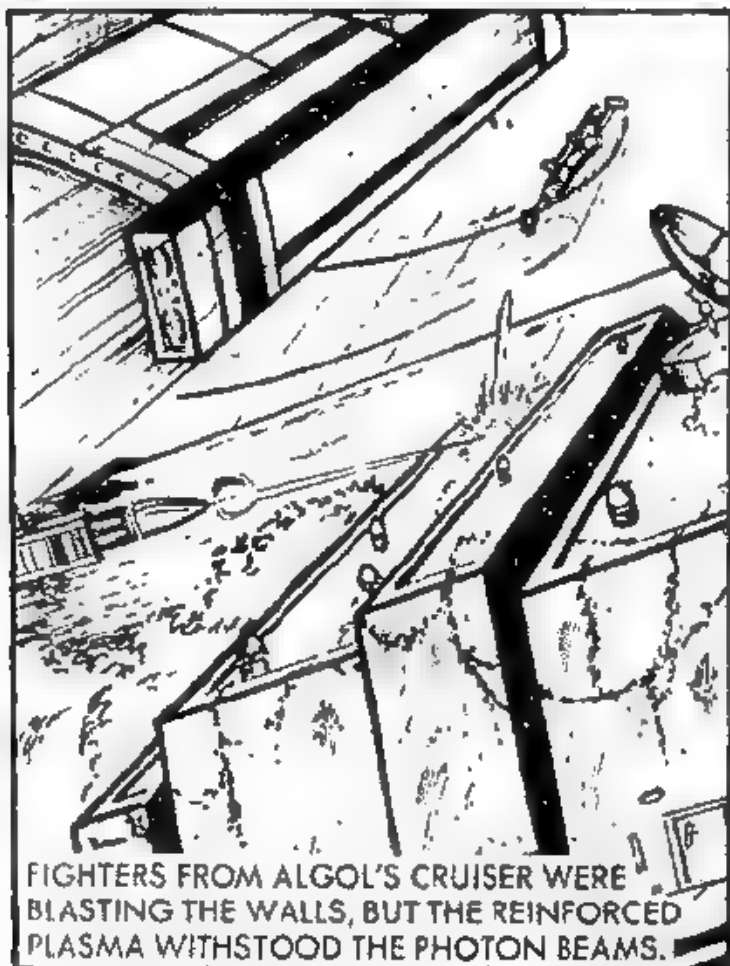
GRASPING THE MEDALLION, HERNE RAN OUT.



WHILE ABOVE, ALGOL MADE READY.

THESE SONIC JAVELINS WILL SOON  
PUT AN END TO THEIR PUNY  
REBELLION!

BUT MY LORD, WHY DON'T WE  
SIMPLY DESTROY THE ENTIRE  
ISLAND?



FIGHTERS FROM ALGOL'S CRUISER WERE  
BLASTING THE WALLS, BUT THE REINFORCED  
PLASMA WITHSTOOD THE PHOTON BEAMS.



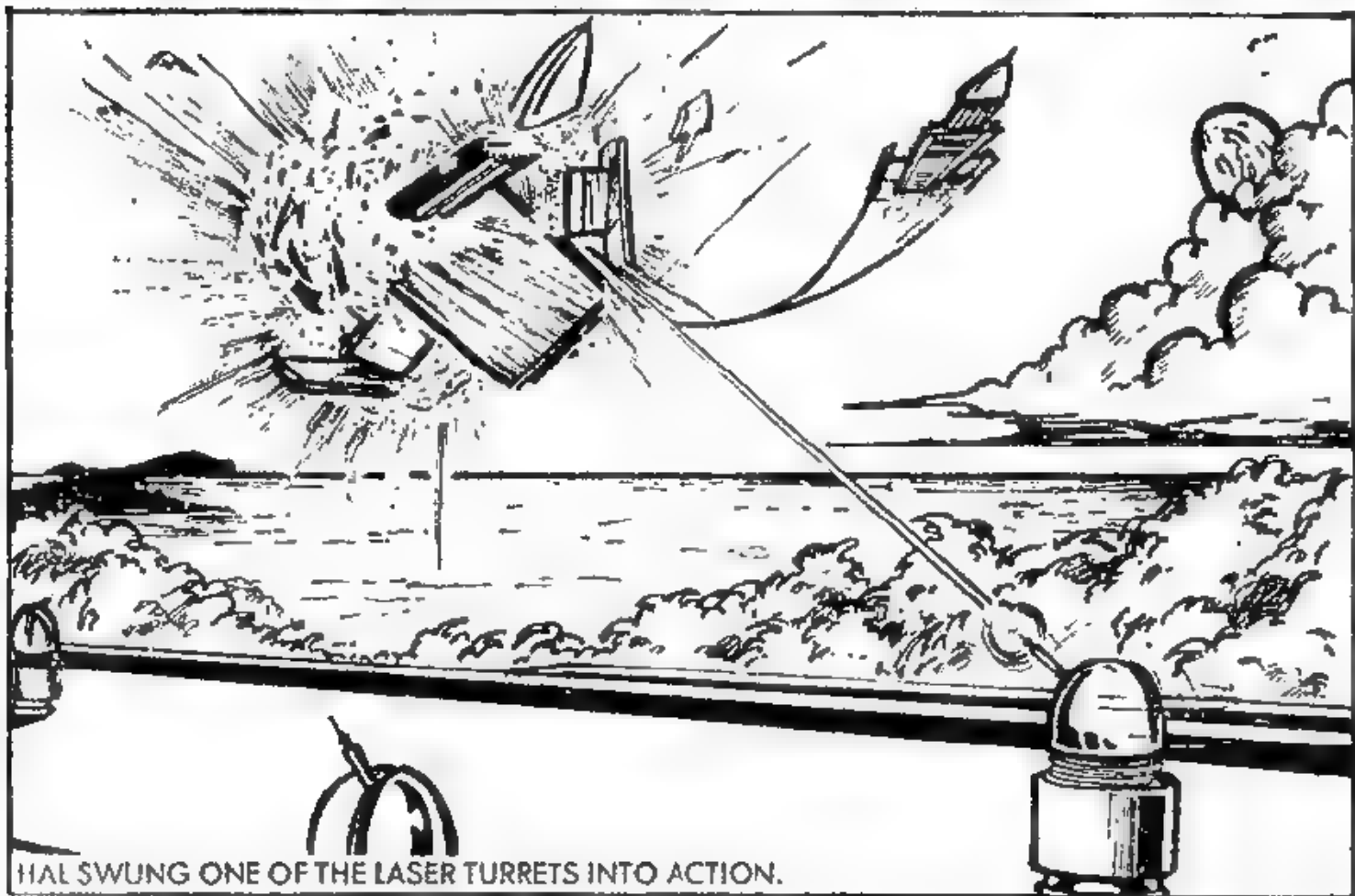


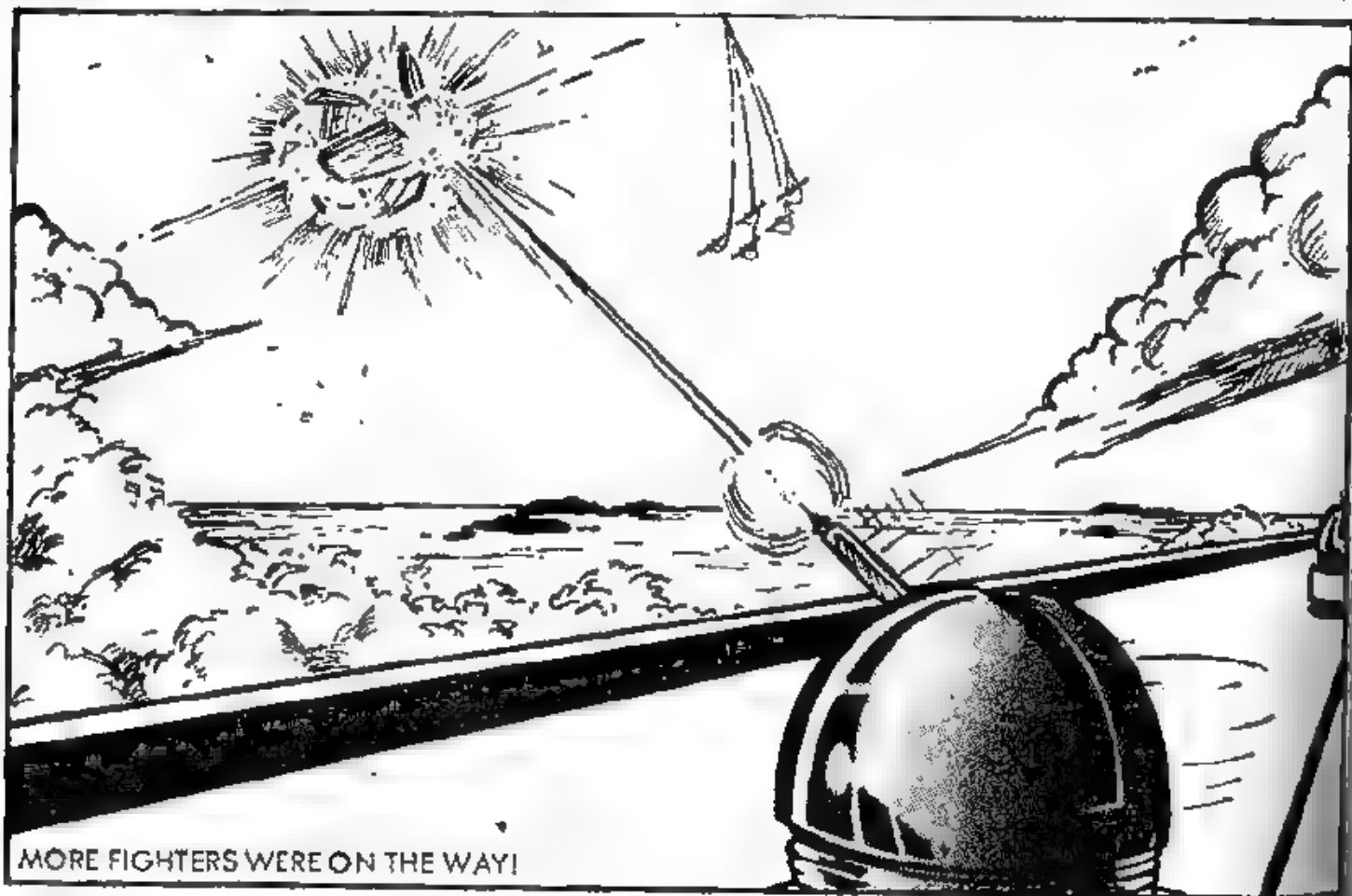
NO! OUR ORDERS ARE TO DESTROY  
HERNE AND RECOVER THE  
MEDALLION. THAT TRINKET IS THE  
KEY TO OUR DESTRUCTION. STAY ... I  
WILL DEAL WITH HERNE PERSONALLY.

USING HIS UNIQUE TELEPORTATION ABILITY, ALGOL VANISHED ...

... ONLY TO REAPPEAR IN THE INSTALLATION.

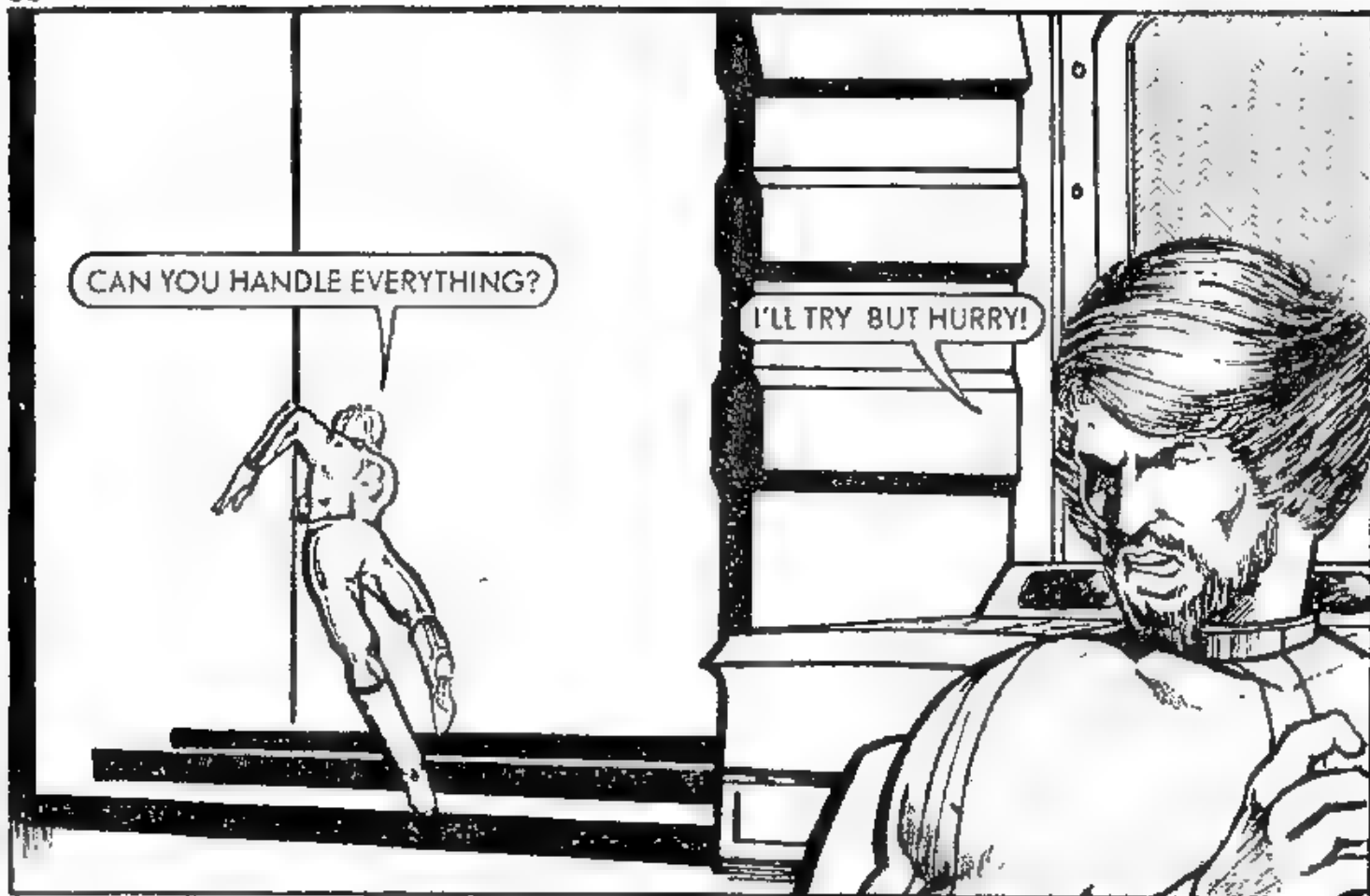




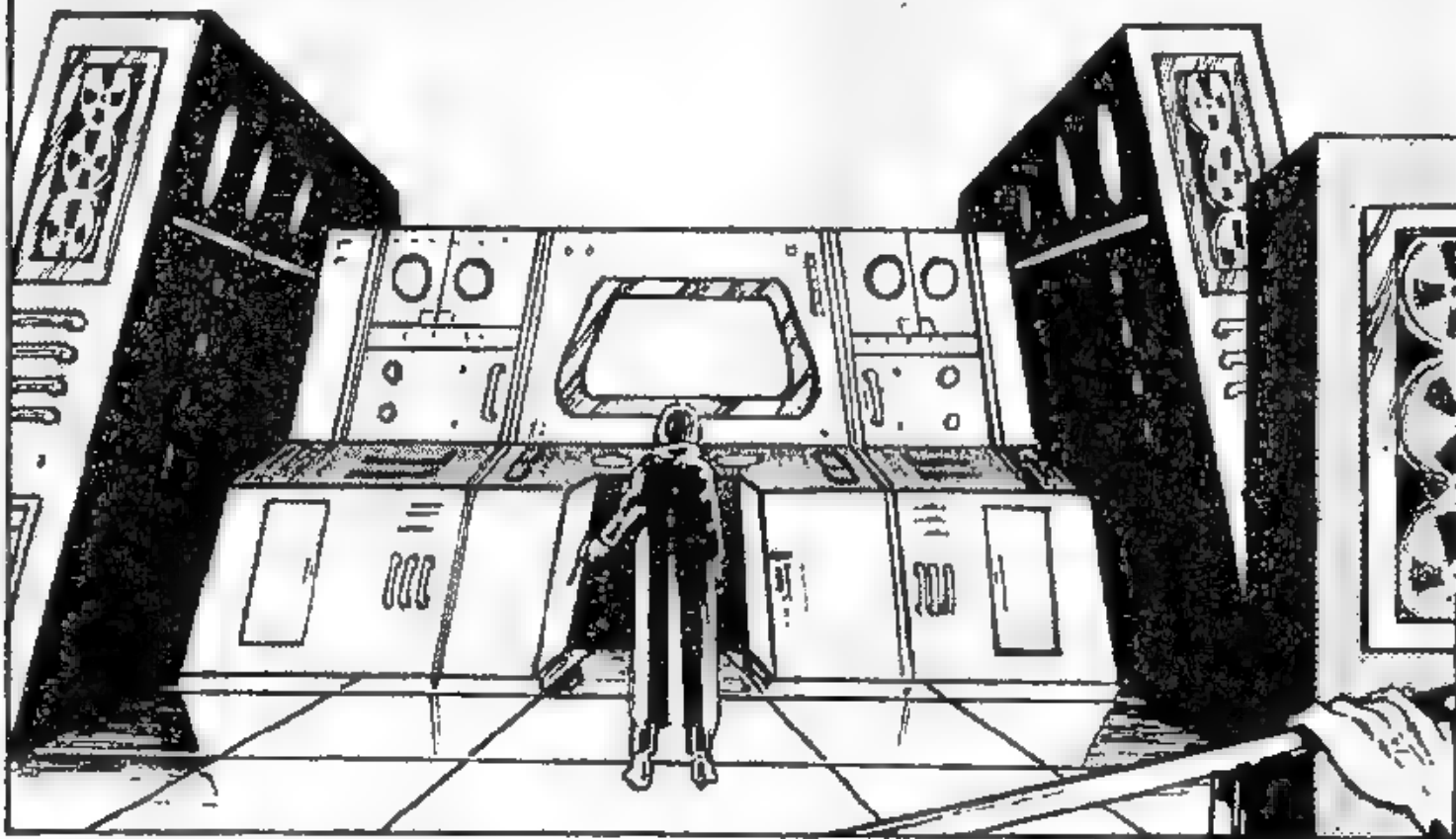








THE MAIN COMPUTER GLOWED AND CLICKED. HERNE WAS SO INTENT ON HIS TASK THAT HE FAILED TO NOTICE THE DARK FIGURE BEHIND HIM.



ALCOL WAS READY TO THROW THE SONIC JAVELIN WHICH COULD VIBRATE ANY SOLID OBJECT APART.





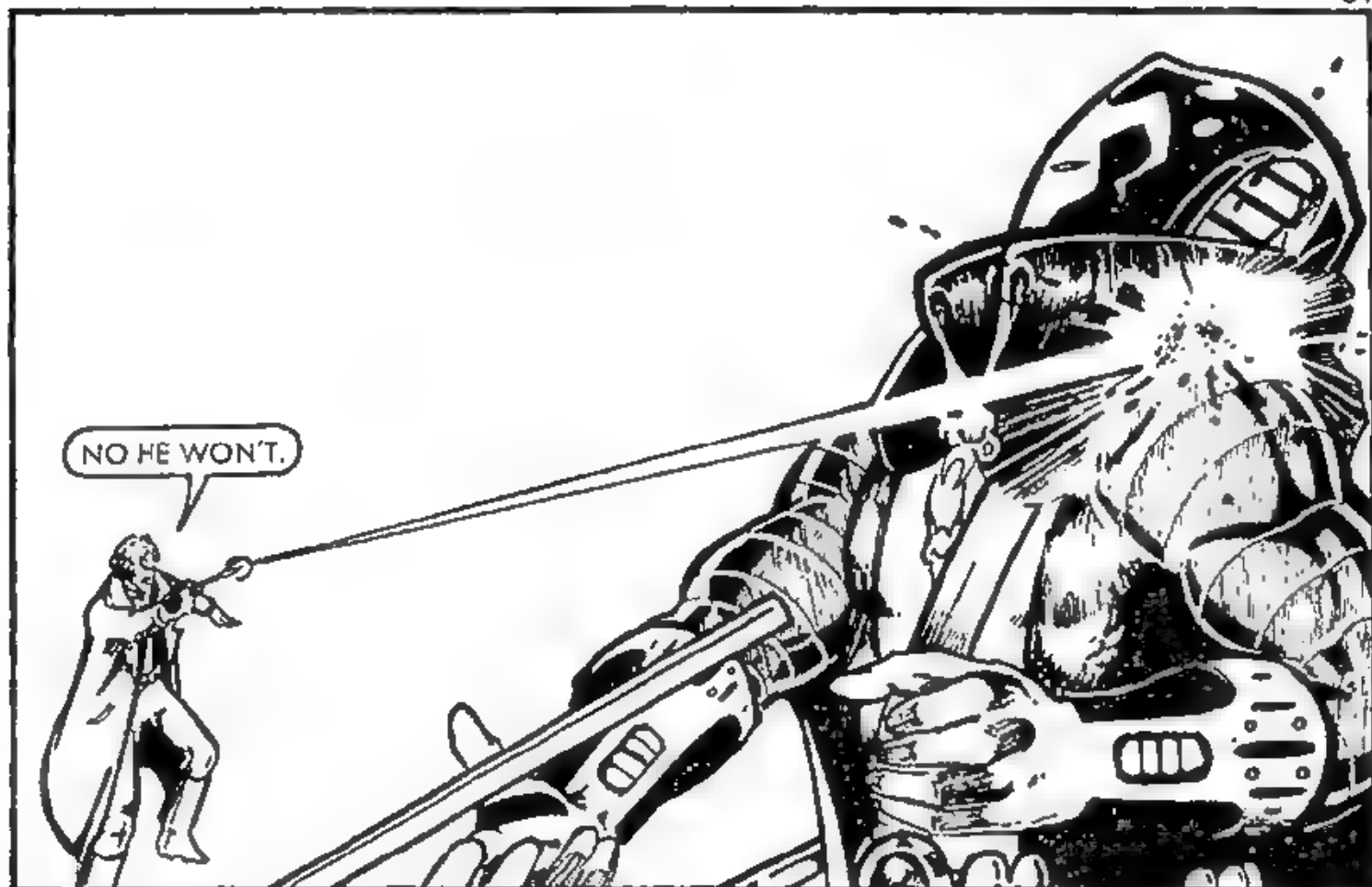
HERNE!  
LOOK OUT!



HAL THREW HIS FULL  
WEIGHT AGAINST A  
COMPUTER BANK  
AND IT FELL INTO  
THE PATH OF THE  
JAVELIN.



YOU WILL  
DIE, BOY.



THE WOUNDED DEMON-LORD TELEPORTED BACK TO HIS SHIP.!

I'LL DESTROY YOU YET!







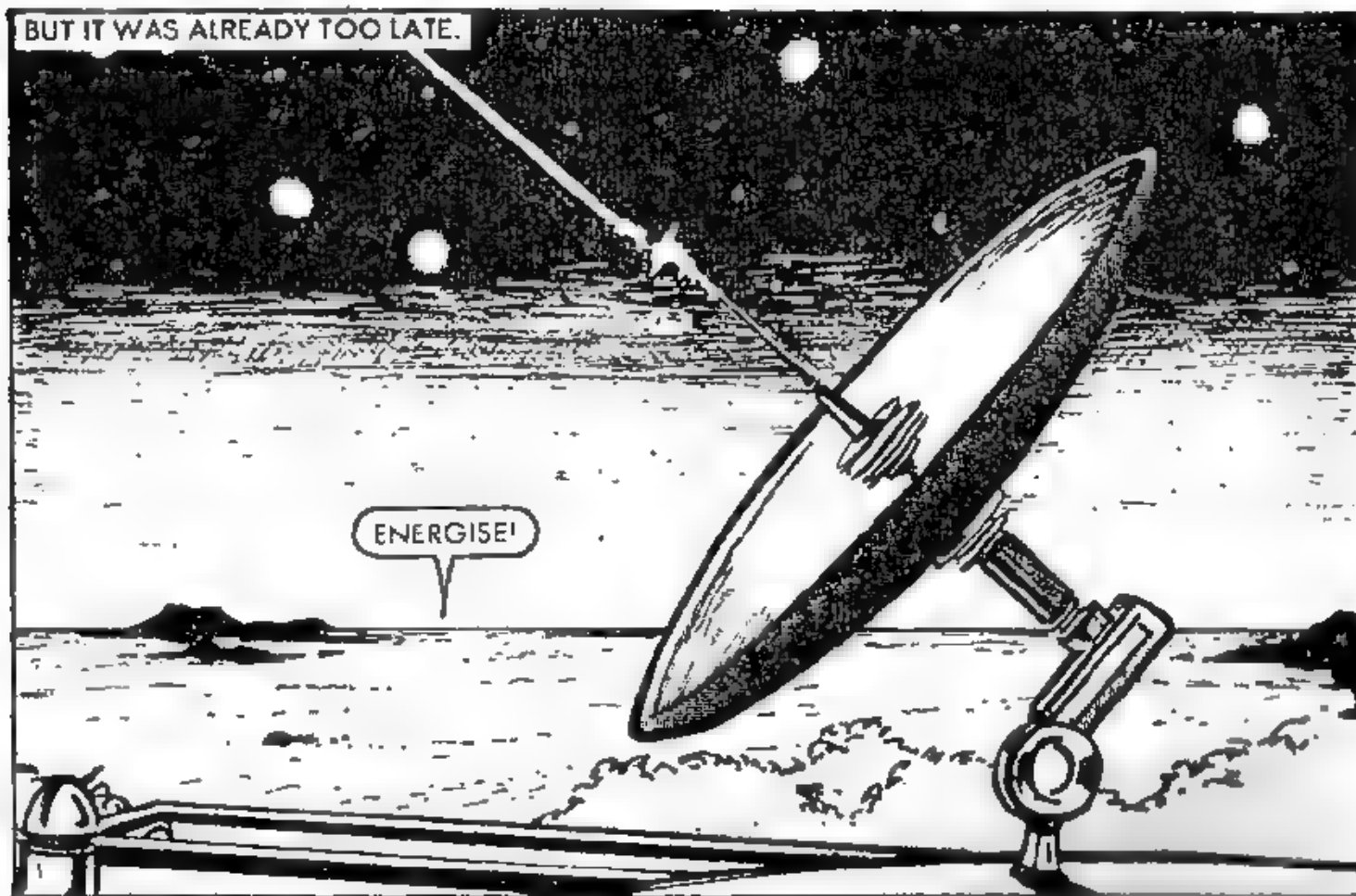
ALGOL KNEW HE HAD TO ACT FAST.

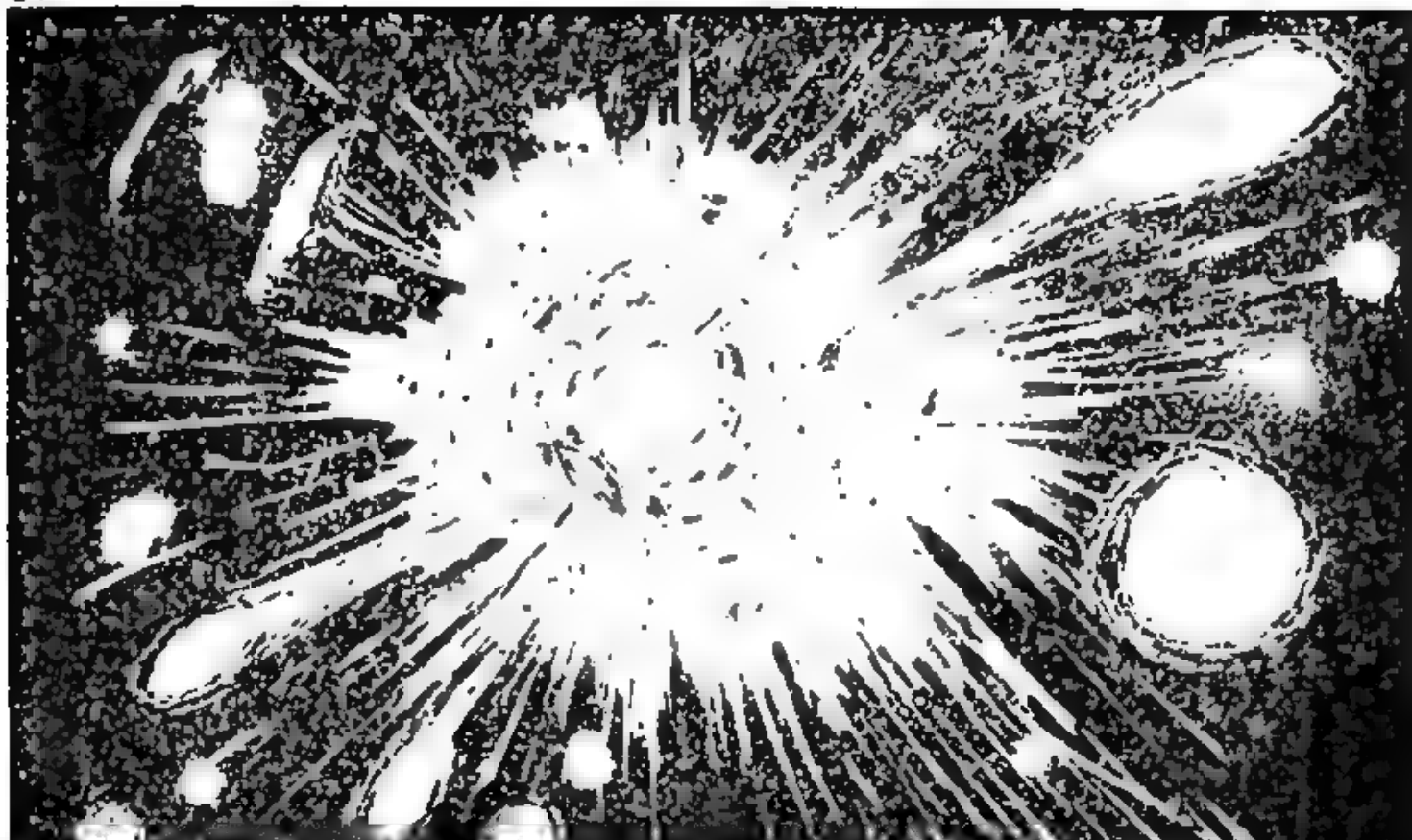
PHOTON BOMBS! DESTROY THE  
ISLAND BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



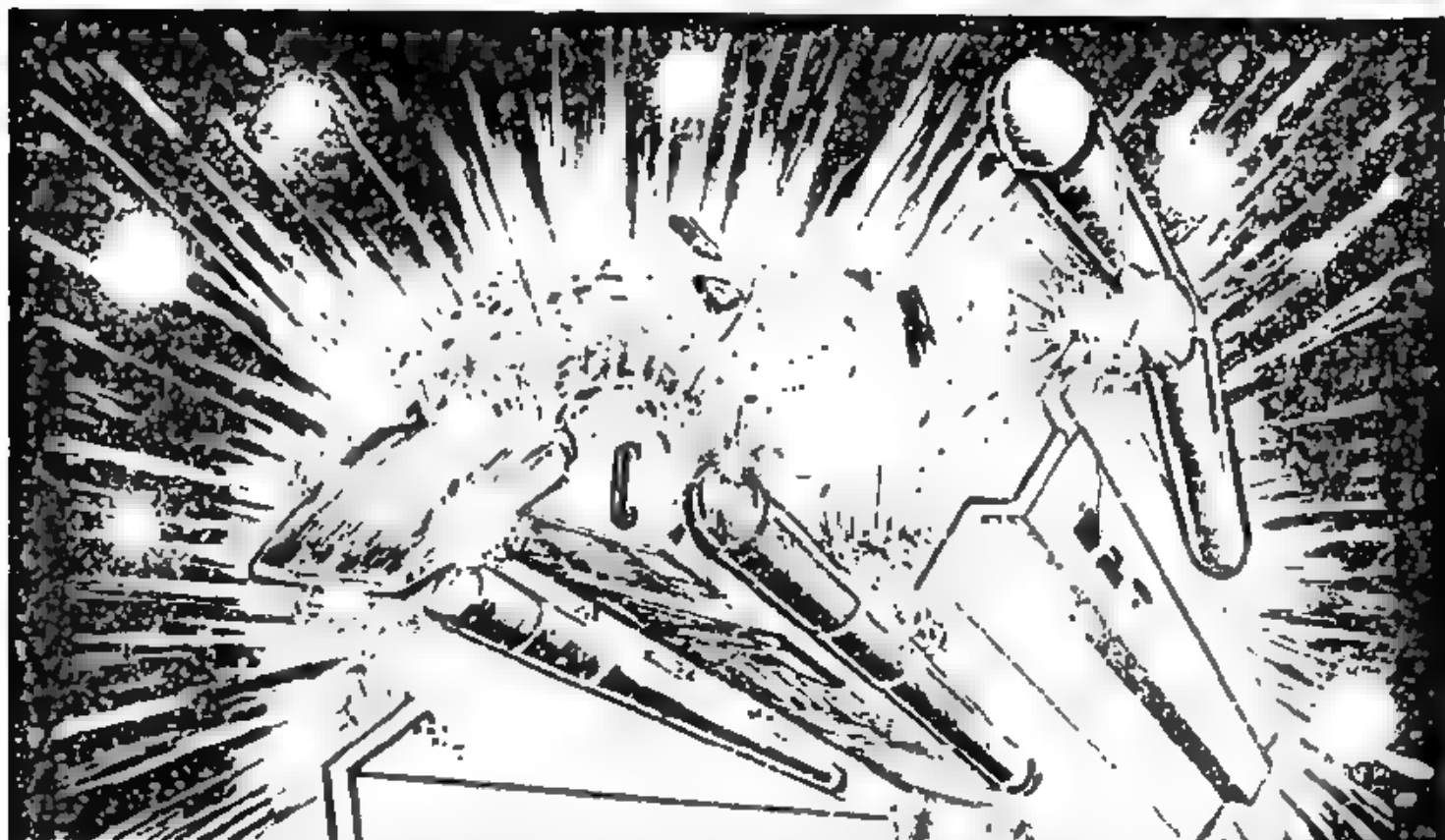
BUT IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE.

ENERGISE!

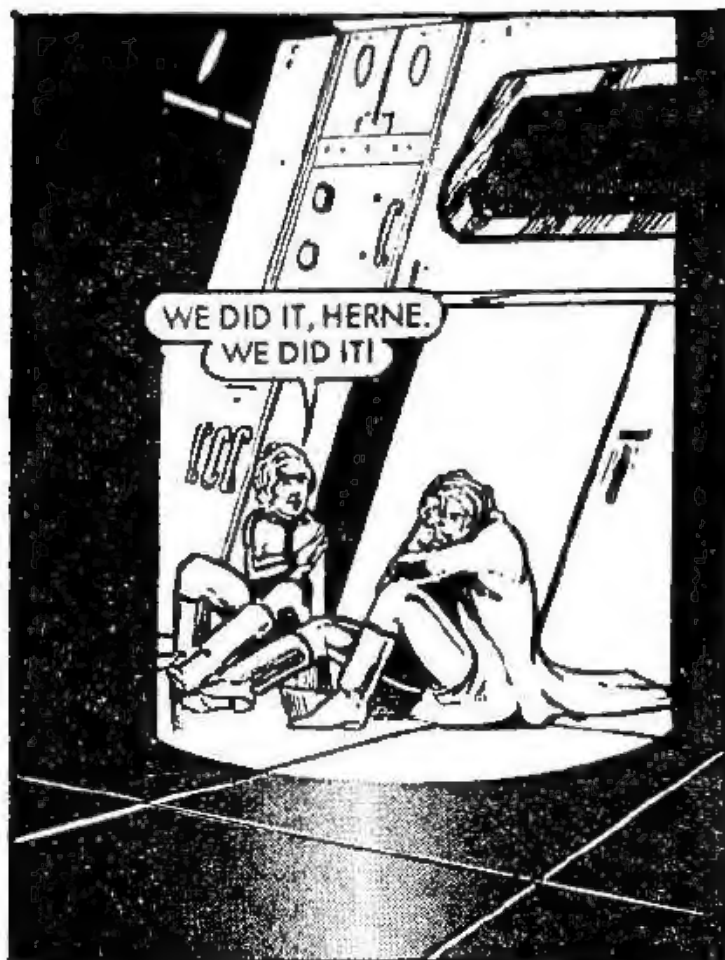




THE SIGNAL CROSSED SPACE TO THE GAS CLOUD AROUND ABRAXIS, AND THE ANTI-MATTER EFFECT INSTANTLY ANNIHILATED THE EVIL STARBARONS IN A MIGHTY INFERNO



BEFORE ALGOL'S MEN COULD DROP THE BOMBS, THE ION ENGINES SUDDENLY LOST ALL POWER AND THE GIANT CRUISER ERUPTED IN A BLINDING WHITE GLARE. THERE WAS SILENCE, AND THE FRONTIER WAS FINALLY FREE OF THE STARBARONS' TYRANNY!



THEY RETURNED TO THULE'S MOON AND  
HERNE MADE READY TO LEAVE.

HAL'S STAYING WITH ME, HERNE.  
TELL ME, HERNE, HOW DID YOU  
KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE  
COMPUTER CENTRE?

AS I SAID, IT'S  
A LONG STORY...





HERNE'S SHIP SPED OUT INTO DEEP SPACE.



Printed and Published in Great Britain by D.C. THOMSON & CO. LTD.,  
185 Fleet Street, London, EC4A 2HS. © D.C. THOMSON & CO. LTD., 1979.



**NOW THAT YOU'VE READ  
THIS**

**STARBLAZER**

**12p**

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 14




**DON'T  
FORGET  
THAT  
THERE'S  
ANOTHER  
ONE THIS  
MONTH**

**IT'S ON SALE IN  
YOUR NEWSAGENT'S NOW!**

# STARBLAZERS

IN THE CONQUEST (15)  
OF SPACE



A satellite in a synchronous orbit, circles the Earth at a height of 22,000 miles. The speed of the satellite matches the speed of the rotation of the Earth, so the satellite appears stationary in space. The first satellite to achieve a synchronous orbit successfully was Syncom 3. This American spacecraft was a communications satellite placed in orbit over the Pacific Ocean and was used to send live TV pictures of the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games to the world.

